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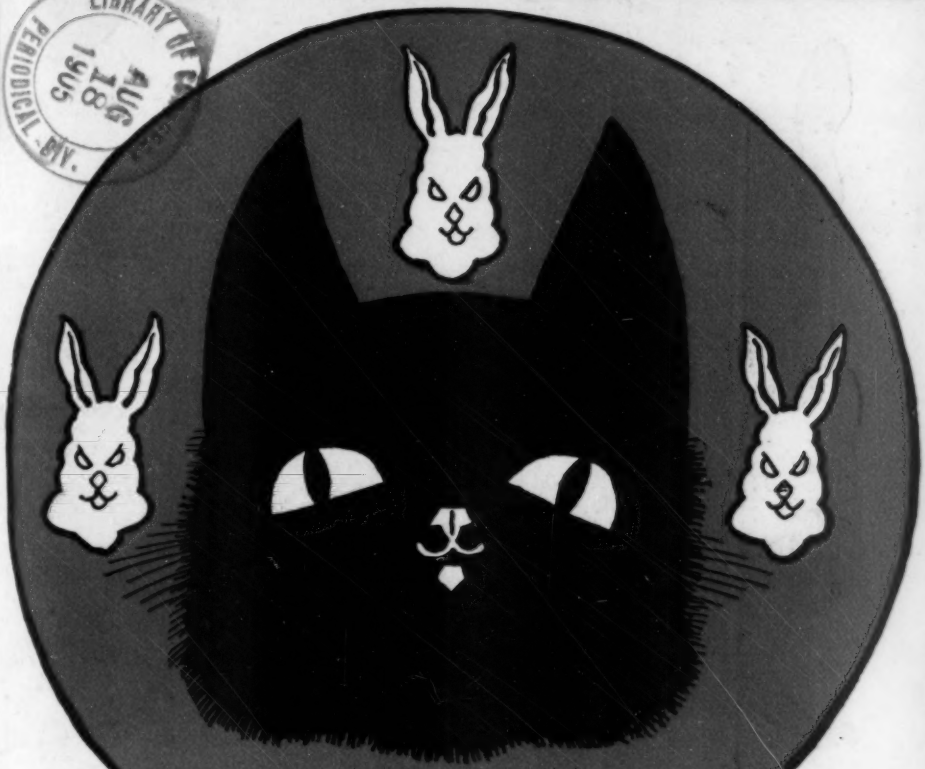

SEPTEMBER
1905

The Black Cat

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How Uncle Sam Lost Sixty-four Dollars.
Charles Fort.

Eggs, $12,000 Per Dozen.
Don Mark Lemon.

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The Lost Pasture Lot.*

BY BIRDSALL JACKSON.

FULL of sunshine was the June morning when Uncle 'Bijah Thompson drove slowly homeward in his rickety old calash-top wagon. Charley, the iron-gray, shambled on in front, drawing the vehicle just fast enough to keep it ahead of the cloud of dust they were raising. He had long since learned that this was the only condition set upon his progress and rolled along in his usual over-fed complacency.

Wild roses besprinkled the hedges, filling the air with fragrance, and the trees looming over them cast patches of shadow across the roadway. Content rested upon the fields of rank-growing grain, content hung in the pellucid air above them, and content reigned in the heart of Uncle 'Bijah.

On they went, rattling down over the little bridge at the foot of the hill, then up again on the other side, the sage Charley meanwhile with one ear cocked forward in reconnaissance and the other inclined backward to assure himself that the whip stayed in the socket where it properly belonged, and old Uncle 'Bijah sitting back comfortably and stroking his patriarchal beard with satisfaction.

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The long rows of corn on the hillside enfiladed past them, first diagonally ahead, then straightway at the side, then diagonally again behind. Then the quince-tree hedge near the homestead swung into line, and beyond this came the whitewashed palings between which Aunt Mary's peonies thrust their beauty upon the grateful world.

When they drew up at the barn, the plethoric Charley heaved a deep sigh of relief and rattled the harness with a vigorous shake, expressive, doubtless, of his hope that some day it might come to pieces and fall from him utterly; and Uncle 'Bijah rose slowly, lowered his lanky frame to the ground, straightened it and began to unharness, whistling and chuckling softly to himself.

"Goodness gracious! 'Bijah — Why couldn't you have stopped at the house first and told me about it and unhitched afterwards? You are the provokingest man I ever lived with."

Aunt Mary, with a blue and white checked apron thrown over her head, was coming toward him with eager steps.

"Didn't know you had lived with any other man," said he, turning away from her to lead the horse into his stall.

She stood looking after him patiently, almost pathetically. Forty years of household care had stamped the crowfeet at the corners of her eyes and set the dark circles beneath them, forty years of hard labor had given her shoulders the heavy droop typical of the farmer's wife. Her voice trembled with anxiety when she spoke again, as he came out.

"Tell me, 'Bijah, quick. I can't wait any more. I've waited so many years. How did you make out?"

"All right."

"Then it's sold?"

"Yes, contract signed and money enough paid down to make it good."

"And the price, 'Bijah, the price?"

"What we agreed on before I went."

"Forty thousand dollars," — she spoke in a half whisper, as though scarce comprehending, now that the fact was accomplished, "forty thousand dollars! What will we ever do with all that money?"

"Now ain't that just like a woman? Wishes for something,

and works for it, and prays for it thirty odd years, and when it does come, 'What'll we ever do with it?' says she. Mary, I'm 'most ashamed of you. We'll do what the rest are doin' with it, the ones we've envied all these years."

"But how did you ever get him to pay that much?"

"Well, I've always been pretty good at a business transaction. You know that. If I hadn't been, that five-thousand-dollar mortgage would be right here on this place, as it was when we started."

She looked up at him with silent assent.

"After talkin' with him a few minutes I could see he wanted it bad, so I asked my price and stuck to it. 'You're asking too much,' says he. 'You don't have to pay it,' says I. 'It's only worth about half that to you,' says he. 'But you're the one that's buyin', Mr. Hilton,' says I. So he went up five thousand at a time till he got there."

"Well, I'm glad it's settled," said Aunt Mary. "But it'll be hard to leave the old home after all, some ways, won't it, 'Bijah? It'll be 'most like losin' one of the family. Think of what we've enjoyed here. I shall always love the place for that, no matter where we go."

"Why don't you look at it the other way?" he remarked quickly. "Why don't you think of what we've suffered here?"

"Well, 'Bijah, if I do, I'm not sure but what I love it just as much for that too."

"I guess the forty thousand will make us whole for all we leave behind," said he.

They were now walking together toward the kitchen door. A flock of chickens trooped after them expectantly. A robin which had been hopping along on the white palings in front took wing, and, alighting in the top of the big cherry tree by the gate, swayed up and down with blithe carol. Near the outer end of the grape trellis at the rear porch they stopped and looked about them, — at the fields of flourishing grain below and the corn on the hillside, at the long line of five-rail fence Uncle 'Bijah had set upon his boundaries in the beginning, at the orchard he had planted soon after, pruned for a score of years, and gathered fruit from almost as much longer, at the piece of woodland he bought later to make

his possessions complete. After a long pause, she turned to him again.

"Well, 'Bijah," said she, "I'm only sorry David couldn't have known of this. He was always talkin' about fixin' it so's you wouldn't have to work so hard. If this had only happened before David — before David — went."

There was a lowering of her voice toward the end, and a tremor upon the last word, the word she invariably substituted for that which she could never bring herself to utter.

He turned to her and spoke gently, even soothingly.

"He was just as anxious about you. And whatever else comes out of this for us, you shall never work so hard again as you have here, Mary, never again. I'll start in a day or so to look up a place for us to move to and we'll go right away."

And with hearts filled with joy, the old couple passed through the low doorway into the kitchen and thence into the sitting room beyond. The slowly moving squares of brightness on the floor by the eastern windows of the little room had not seemed so bright before in thirty years, and the clock upon the mantel-shelf, the one with the pastoral scene on the front of the case and Gothic pinnacles on its corners, had never ticked so cheerily.

Many were their plans for the future; the purchase of some small homestead near by with sufficient acreage to keep the old man busy, yet not enough to be a care to him; a house more comfortable and convenient than she had been used to; and, mayhap, some of the trips about the country which they had heard spoken of by others but had always considered wholly beyond their means. It was indeed an eventful day and a happy one for Aunt Mary and Uncle 'Bijah.

"'Bijah," said Aunt Mary as he came in one afternoon several weeks later, "I thought you were goin' to look up a place. We'll have to go right off, now that the deed has been passed."

"I know it, Mary, but Mr. Hilton said we needn't hurry and I wanted to get our stock sold first. It's mighty exhaustin' work to sell live stock if you care somethin' about 'em and want to make sure they'll all have good homes. When they come after ole White-nose this mornin' and led her away, and Charley stuck his head out of his stall and looked around at all the other empty ones and

then at me, as much as to say, 'This is a nice fix you're leavin' me in, here alone,' I don't think I ever felt so tired in my whole life."

"You do look played out, 'Bijah, and it's been hard for you, I know. But we're sure it's all for the best, and the thought of it will soon wear off after we leave. I think we'd better move as soon as we can find a place."

"Yes," said he, "so do I. I'll start right out tomorrow."

Every clear day for several weeks thereafter, the old calash-top propelled the sage Charley down the hill until its wheels rattled on the little bridge at the foot; whereat, the somnambulist awoke and a cloud of dust arose in the midsummer air, while the countryside for miles about was filled with the noise of their journeyings. From these pilgrimages, Uncle 'Bijah invariably returned despondent, but still hopeful.

Through some unknown agency, possibly that of the Gipsom girls, who had now been girls about thirty-five years, and who conducted privately a very reliable information bureau, it became known that Uncle 'Bijah and Aunt Mary would buy a place, if one could be found to suit them. After that, it was not through lack of neighborly advice that the purchase was not made forthwith.

On several occasions, upon receiving reports of an especially encouraging tenor, they set out together, eager in their quest and flushed with hope. But they were continually disappointed, and the summer waned away without any decisive action.

Others came to gather the crops Uncle 'Bijah had planted, whereat the patriarch, his round of accustomed duty steadily contracting, and for want of something better to do, went out to watch them at work. Nor could he forbear telling them how the harvest should be managed to best advantage. And when they answered him lightly, or not at all, and gave no heed to his counsel, the old man passed slowly homeward along the fence, steadying himself with his hand at the top rail, and betook himself querulously to his rocking chair for solace and rest.

"Who'd ever thought," said he, "Who'd ever thought, Mary, that we'd live to see our place run over like this by a pack of numskulls who don't know a wheel-barrow from a mowin' machine? It makes me sweat all over to look at 'em. It tires me more than the work used to."

"Well, then, 'Bijah, stay away from 'em till we go. We'll be sure to find something to suit before long. You know I've been ready and anxious to leave these three months past."

"Not a bit more so than I have," the old man blazed. "You just show me a place that's laid out half-way sensibly for comfort and convenience, like this one, and a house where I won't feel like a cat in a strange garret, and a well of water that comes anywheres near the taste of ours, and see how long I'll stay here."

Then followed several more days of fruitless search, and finally one at the close of which Uncle 'Bijah drove in wearing such an expression of satisfaction that Aunt Mary hurried out the kitchen door to intercept him.

"No, Mary," said he, "I haven't found what we want, but I've done the next best thing. I've got Mr. Hilton's word that we can stay here all winter if we want to. It seems he's goin' to turn the farm into a place where they play this new game,— knock a little ball as far as they can with a club, then walk after it, so's to knock again, so's to walk again. On the way home," he added, "I stopped at the doctor's."

"Well, what did he say?"

"Said I was as sound as a dollar, and good for ten years at least. Only one sign of danger. 'And what's that, doctor?' I asked. 'I don't hardly know how to tell you,' says he. 'You probably know already better than I do. It's your feeling that you ought to come here, or rather, it's whatever is back of that feeling, what I might call the germ of the idea that you need me.' 'Well, doctor,' I says, goin' for my hat, 'if that's all you can find wrong, I've got the germ of an idea that I don't need you at all.'"

"For my part, 'Bijah, I never did think it amounted to anything, anyway," was Aunt Mary's comment.

With the coming of early autumn, the long rows of corn on the hillsides went into bivouac, and the grain-stacks in the adjoining fields, although lacking the military erectness Uncle 'Bijah exacted, stood guard above them.

For the most part, the old man kept closely to the house and his chair in the sitting room, and, apparently, gave small heed to the changes, whether because he had no wish to note them, or possibly could not bear to do so.

But, late one gray afternoon in November, he went out and walked slowly through the fields, as had been his wont after the crops were gathered and all made snug for the winter. He came back at a shambling half-run with one hand at his breast. Aunt Mary saw him, ran out, and helped him in to his chair.

"Why, 'Bijah! What in the world is the matter?" she cried.

"The pasture lot!" he panted. "The pasture lot! It's gone! And the brook! The brook went too!"

He sank back wearily into the chair with closed eyes.

"You know the place, Mary, where I run the fence across the bend of the brook, so's they could go down and drink whenever they wanted to. Old Whitenose was there, just like she used to be. And when I went towards her with my hand out, in a flash, she was gone; and I was walkin' across *on dry land.* And the fence was gone, and nothin' left but one broad, open field."

She stood looking down at him in amazement and solicitude.

"There, there, 'Bijah! Don't go on so! You've run and got yourself overheated, and it's made you light-headed. They've taken down the fence and filled in the bend, I s'pose, in their improvements."

The old man sat for several minutes in silence. Then his faculties drew together, and, his mind slowly readjusting itself, the smouldering fire within him blazed up.

"Improvements!" he sneered. "Improvements! The fools! They've ruined the best pasture lot in the four townships! I'm goin' right off to see Mr. Hilton about it."

"Oh, don't, 'Bijah. Please don't do that. You can't change it any now. You'll only tire yourself all out again for nothin'!"

But, despite Aunt Mary's tearful protests, he rose, dragged himself to the barn, harnessed the old horse, and drove out.

It was nearly dark when he drew rein at the door of the Hilton country-seat and asked for the proprietor. But when the latter, who was just home from his afternoon on the links, came out and greeted him pleasantly, Uncle 'Bijah sat bent over in the dusk, fumbling at his whip and at a loss how to explain his errand.

"I thought you ought to know," he began, finally, "that somebody has taken down the fences and filled in the brook and ruined the pasture lot."

"I do know it — in fact, I ordered it done." Mr. Hilton's voice suggested good-natured raillery.

"Mebbe you didn't know it was the best pasture lot to be found in a day's drive," suggested the patriarch.

"Hadn't a doubt of it," said the other. "And now it's going to be a part of the best golf links to be found in a day's drive, which, to my way of thinking, is a good deal better."

The impatient Charley lurched forward a little just then, and the light streaming from one of the front windows struck full upon Uncle 'Bijah's face.

"Great God! Man, don't look like that!" Mr. Hilton's tone and manner changed completely. "I wouldn't knowingly bring that look into a man's face for anything in this world. And I won't have my pleasure paid for so dearly as that by anybody. I'd rather lose ten times the few thousands I've spent on your farm than to have you feel so badly about what I'm doing with it. I insist on transferring it back to you immediately."

The old man's lank form straightened up in the seat as though a bullet had struck him.

"Not if you offered me twice what you paid for it to take it again. You don't know 'Bijah Thompson. I asked my price, didn't I? And you paid every cent I asked. I never took water on a business deal in my life, nor went into one without lookin' on all sides of it. I know I've had spells of feelin' tired lately, but there ain't anything the matter with me. And if there was, could ownin' a few acres of land more or less make me worse or better? No, Mary and I have acted for the best in this. It's just what we planned and agreed on. Why, Mr. Hilton, Mary and I have *prayed* for this over thirty years. And now we've got the chance, do you think I could ever look her in the face again and tell her I hadn't been man enough to stand by her in it? All the same," he concluded, "it's good of you to offer it, and I'm glad to know that dealin' in stocks don't keep a man from bein' a gentleman."

"Nor does farming," reciprocated Mr. Hilton smilingly.

Whereupon they shook hands, and Uncle 'Bijah drove homeward. Aunt Mary awaited him at the barn, helped him from the wagon, half-carried him to the house, and, with much difficulty, succeeded in getting him up-stairs to bed.

There the old man fretted for several days like a petulant child, now sitting up in bed to see from the window what was going on about the place, now sinking back again in wearisome complaint, assenting to his wife's plea that his interest was a passing one, but invariably reverting to the same monotonous theme.

But finally, one bright, keen December morning, as Aunt Mary sat at her little sewing table in the sitting room, she was astonished to hear steps in the stair-hall adjoining, and, before she could rise, the door opened, and Uncle 'Bijah stood before her, fully dressed, and as erect as in his prime. She was still more astonished when he walked with strong, firm step to his chair by the window.

"Why, 'Bijah! I never was so taken back in my life. I'm afraid this'll be too much for you. I wouldn't have believed you had strength enough to get half way here."

"Well, Mary, I didn't feel as if I could at first, but you see I *had* to come. Why, I couldn't see down towards the orchard at all from the bed-room window. But I'm better, now I've got here. And stronger, yes, a good deal stronger. Only this pain gnaws me some here, in the side. But I'm gettin' used to that, now. That'll never kill me. Oh, I'm good for ten years yet. Don't you worry about me. And I *had* to get up, so's to see if everything was all right at the orchard. I wish you'd come over, Mary, and run up that shade. Mebbe I've been dreamin' up there, but for several days I've been hearin' a sound, kinder dull and heavy, like clods fallin' onto something down in the ground. And this mornin' it was stranger and worse, more like something, or mebbe, *somebody bein' struck by an axe.*"

Aunt Mary laid the white kerchief she was hemming upon the sewing table, crossed the room to the window, and raised the shade. At the first glance, the old man's hand went to his breast, and his whole body seemed to droop and shrivel before her.

"Oh, Mary! They're gone! The ones we set out first! All we planted before Davy was born! Don't you remember how he used to laugh and hold up his fat little arms to the blossoms? And how he cried one day, and ran and struck one of the trees with his fist, 'Tause you fwowed 'at apple down onto my papa's nose,' says he? That was Davy every time, lookin' out for his daddy."

"Oh, don't, 'Bijah! Please don't! I can not stand it!"

But he heard not, or heeded not. "And now they're cuttin' the ones he and I set out together. 'For your use, father, in your old age,' says he. 'No, for yours, when you marry and start out,' says I, and argued with him, not knowin' he was right."

"'Bijah! Stop! Look here! Look at me!"

But the old man could see naught else but one thing. He had half risen from his chair, with one hand on the arm, and with the other plucking alternately at his beard and breast.

"But the old tree between! They've left that! That's the one his little swing used to hang from. Put it there myself, so's I could watch him from the corn-lot. Back and forth, back and forth, he used to go, in the shade and out again, like a shuttle. See! They're goin' right past it. They won't touch that one! They wouldn't dare!"

His voice fell to a whisper, a tense, incisive whisper, that pierced the stillness of the room like a dagger.

"Why, if they tried to cut that one, Davy'd *come back* and stop 'em. O, Mary! Look!" He pointed with one trembling hand. "Look! They've turned towards it again! And *he* is there *now!* And they're swingin' for him with their axes! O my God!"

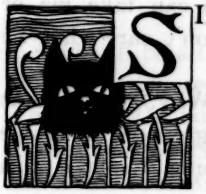
The old man sank heavily into his chair, threw back his head, and sighed deeply. Aunt Mary bent over him for a moment in silence, then tottered in bewilderment to her chair.

. . . . . .

On the third day thereafter, the astute Charley, neighing his protest against hunger and neglect, drew to his aid one of Mr. Hilton's workmen, whose curiosity led him thence to the farm-house. He went in at the kitchen entrance, crossed the room softly and swung wide the inner door. At one side of the sitting room, an old woman with bright eyes and shrunken features was swaying to and fro in her chair, droning weirdly as though to a child held in her arms, while at the other side, the motionless figure of the patriarch sat by the window and stared out with stony eyes.

How Uncle Sam Lost Sixty-four Dollars.*

BY CHARLES FORT.



SIMON BOBBLES had ways of his own, so you must not be astonished at anything done by him.

Said Simon: "Ain't I the strange feller, though! I'm that set on travelling! I'd like to be in Denver, just to say I was there. I'd like to go out to see Budd Lobe in San Francisco. I ain't got any use for Budd and he ain't any for me, but I'd like to go out just to say I was there. I'd like to go to Washington. Don't care about the Capitol and wouldn't be bothered with the Monument; don't care about generals and senators, but just want to say I was there."

Simon made a discovery. Said he: "It costs money to travel!"

Simon was given to wisdom. Said he: "There's always ways of doin' things." And this was his way:

The postman hastened from corner to corner, collecting mail. And there on a letter-box sat Simon Bobbles, perched comfortably, swinging his legs.

"Hey, young fellow," said the indignant postman, "You mustn't do your lounging there! The Government ain't in the furniture business. Do you hear?"—for Simon said nothing, but swung his legs indolently,—"You mustn't loaf there, so take a jump for yourself."

"But I can't," answered Simon. "I can't move, and by rights I can't talk, either. I'm mail. I'm mail. See?"

MR. BUDD LOBE,
234 Pearl Street,
San Francisco,
Cal.

Upon his forehead was a postage stamp. Upon his coat was marked in huge letters the above address.

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"Don't talk nonsense," said the impatient postman. "And you'd better not interfere with the post-office, either." He called to a policeman.

Now, Officer O'Glory was a new policeman, and, as he had been in trouble several times because of arrests made too promptly, he was a careful officer. Not grasping the facts of the case, he approached, glancing at a little book of rules.

"I'm mail," said the unruffled Simon. "He can take me or leave me. I'm addressed and stamped and I don't care what he does about it."

"Stamped!" cried the wrathful postman. "Why, he weighs at least two hundred pounds. And for that he's got one miserable two-cent stamp on him. Officer, are you going to take this fellow?"

Officer O'Glory fluttered the pages of his book of rules. Unfortunately, the compiler had neglected to foresee such a situation.

"When in doubt, use your own judgment." That was the only suggestion of application.

No; there was another:

"Never permit yourself to be thought at a loss."

"I can't touch him, if he's mail," declared Officer O'Glory. "You don't get me before the Commissioner for picking parcels off the tops of letter-boxes."

"But how far would a two-cent stamp carry him?" shouted the postman.

And Simon answered: "I ain't supposed to talk, 'cause I'm mail, but you know that so long as there's one stamp on anything you've got to take it. Wasn't there any on me, I wouldn't go; but so long as there's two cents paid, you've got to take me for the rest to be paid at my destination."

"Well, I'll be registered!" cried the postman. "But Mr. Budd Lobe will be glad to see you! How are you mailing? You're first-class postage, I suppose?"

"I'm always first-class goods," answered Simon.

The postman calculated rapidly.

"Two cents an ounce or fraction thereof. Sixteen to the pound — two hundred pounds — sixty-four dollars! But won't Mr. Budd Lobe be glad to see you! Come on, then."

"Carry me," said Simon. "I'm sort of a ward o' the Government and must travel luxoorious. I'm mail, and can't walk."

And with many a gasp and many a groan, the postman staggered to the post-office with Simon resting comfortably on his back.

"He's mail!" gasped the postman, falling into the office with his parcel.

"He is!" said the postmaster. "Well, he don't go here. He's live stock, and Uncle Sam isn't carrying live stock. Turn him out."

"That'll be all right," Simon agreed; "turn me out. I'm mail and ain't supposed to talk, but my sender'll sue you. There ain't a court in the land would uphold you. You just try to classify a human bein' as live stock and hear the kick that'll go up. There's the Wimmen's Clubs always something frenzied to find something to kick about. You let them hear you call them and other human bein's live stock!"

"To — to California with him!" roared the postmaster. So there was nothing to do but to accept Simon and cancel his stamp. The indignant cancellation clerk dipped his fist into indelible ink and punched the stamp on Simon's forehead, while up and down his clothes "postage due" stamps were pasted.

Neatly done up in a sack all to himself, Simon travelled across the continent. He saw nothing of Philadelphia and nothing of Chicago.

"Don't want to," said Simon; just want to say I been there. Must go to Washington, too. There's sights there. Don't want them; just want to say I been there." And, having a plentiful supply of tablets secured from a vegetarian, he subsisted as well as any vegetarian, secluded in the mail car until the brakeman cried: "San Francisco!" and another postmark was stamped on his forehead.

It was the early morning delivery. The postman went up a stoop, whistling and crying: "Lobe! Budd Lobe! Any one know Lobe?"

Budd Lobe knew Lobe and he hastened down the stairs.

"Sixty-four dollars due!" said the postman.

"Why, if it isn't Simon Bobbles!" cried Budd. "How are you, Simon? What on earth are you doing here? And what's

that on your forehead? What kind of a stamp album are you wearing?"

Said the postman: "Sixty-four dollars, please!"

Then Budd Lobe understood.

"What? For Simon Bobbles? He ain't worth it. Sorry, Simon, but you know you aren't worth anything like sixty-four dollars."

"I know it," Simon admitted, and mumbling something about being delighted to see him, Budd ran down the stoop, and rushed around the corner, flying from so much unpaid postage.

"Well, if this isn't a sell!" exclaimed the postman. "Now what's to become of you?"

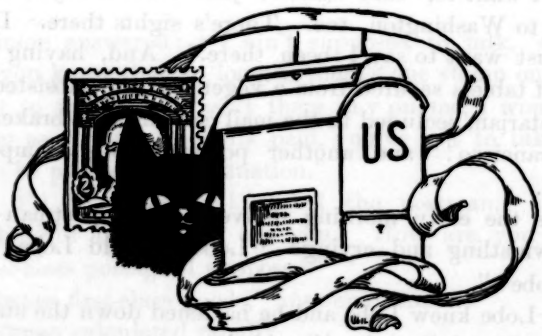
"Kind o' like to see Washington," drawled Simon. "Anyway, I've got it to say that I've been to 'Frisco."

And with the Government at a loss of sixty-four dollars, he was forwarded to the Dead Letter Office.

A clerk rudely tore off his coat. It was the "envelope" of the "dead letter." In a vest pocket was a card bearing the name and home address of Simon Bobbles.

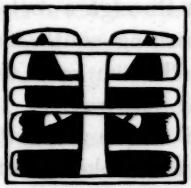
They sent him home from the Dead Letter Office.

Says Simon: "There's always ways of doin' things. Been everywhere! Didn't see much places, but just the same can say I was there."



The Viper's Sting.*

BY JAMES H. PIERCE.



THE train came out of the darkness, hissing with impatience at the delay, and stopped with a jerk as the last spark dropped from the protesting brake-shoes.

Sheriff Crawford, in the chair-car, stirred uneasily, and then settled in a more comfortable position, and a man who was standing in the aisle stole silently away, with short, halting steps.

The brakeman swore softly to himself and called many maledictions upon the head of the "lazy lout" on No. 3 who had not opened the switch, and the crew of No. 3 cursed the crew of No. 8 for delaying them three minutes. Number 3 went into the moonlit west and No. 8 faded into the plain to the eastward, and the place was left alone save for the lizards, toads, and owls, that make of that sunbaked land a home. No; not alone. Something struggled awkwardly to its feet, and the light of the stars disclosed a man with a "fishplate" in his hands. He dropped and swung his feet across the rail and the iron rose and fell in frenzied strokes. Soon he rose and, careful only to step on the ties, also faded into the sand and brush.

The lights of Seligman appeared like low-lying stars, the long, wailing whistle from the engine as the train approached the station caused the sheriff to stir, the brakeman called out some unintelligible jargon, the officer again stirred, stretched, rubbed his eyes open, jumped wildly to his feet, and rushed madly up and down the car. His prisoner was gone. The brakeman was neither polite nor patient — in fact, he was secretly elated — for he had worn bracelets himself.

"Hum-m-m-m! Must have dropped off at Chino — last stop — five miles back — walk, or you might charter a hand-car — run

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nuthin' back; this ain't no freight train," drawled the brakeman, and then, as Crawford's words began to be personal: "Say, look here, my frien', I'm not takin' care of your prisoners, I've got somethin' better to do, and you go a little slow with your chin music. I-don't-care-a-tinker's-cuss-who-you-are; if you get fresh wit me I'll take a fall out of you. See?"

Several miles west of Chino, where the road cut through a rock-strewn ridge, the hunted hesitated, and, finally turning south, he vanished into the shadows. Carefully he stepped from rock to rock, leaving no sign that a man had lately passed that way.

The hunter found that the hunted had dropped to the ground; the marks on the rails told that the shackles were broken; but where had he gone? Did he know the country? Would he strike for the water holes? Nothing could be done until daybreak, and then there was no trail to follow, nothing but dreary wastes of sand. Crawford notified all stations and offered two hundred and fifty dollars reward, without any strings, for Brady. He smiled grimly at the idea of any man trying to escape in that sea of sand and cactus. A man manacled and without water or horse! He'd have him again in a day or two, alive or — dead.

All that day, from a distant ridge, a pair of bloodshot eyes watched the trains approach, pass, and disappear, all apparently in a sea of water. Several freights waited on a passing track and he knew that the key to freedom was there. Sometimes he dozed, but waked again with the cold perspiration standing in every pore — for every buzzard's shadow, every whisper of the breeze in the brush, every clump of brush, every rock, was to the hunted a danger. A "road runner," dodging about in the rocks trying to determine the nature of this invader, dislodged a small stone which, rattling down, sent this hunted wretch into a nervous frenzy.

And thirst! Did any of you who have ridden across this desert with an obsequious porter to bring you water if you were too indolent to go and draw it from the cooler yourself, look out across those sunbaked mesas and wonder what it would be like to be out there under the July sun, the gates of freedom opening to you and the creeping vultures of the law between you and water?

As friendly darkness stole over the sage-brush, he crept down and across the waste and waited. A freight pulled on to the switch, the trainmen passed along towards the engine, and a drink-demented being dashed into the caboose and drank and drank from the water-butt. His thirst partly satisfied, he cast about for something to carry the precious fluid away in, and then his heart hesitated in its even beat. Looking down on him from above was a pair of brown eyes and a voice had said, "Good, wasn't it?" They stared for a second, one pair with compassion in its depths and one with murder — then: "Pard, if you're as hungry as you was dry, there's a bucket of grub under that seat. Don't say anyt'ing, just grab it and slope, der gang 'll be back any minit," and as the figure disappeared into the darkness, there came from the caboose, "Water at the Springs, nineteen miles west." And brown eyes sat back and soliloquized; "Bracelets on and shackles broken; it's Brady. Hell! I had two hun'erd an' fifty in me mit, but den," with a sigh, "I'd only blow it at de Needles, an' liberty is wort' more to Brady den booze to me."

Nineteen miles. You who have ridden that distance from Yampai to Peach Springs, in a passenger coach, did not think it far. With a good horse under you it is just a little unpleasant without water. On foot in the daylight and along the road, you can make it without water, if you are stout of heart and strong of limb. Confine yourself in a stuffy cell for weeks, then run over the rocks and through the cactus in the starlight, blister and cut your feet, have the cactus spines burning and poisoning your legs to your knees. Let every sound, every movement in the moving darkness, be to your distorted imagination a waiting officer. Don't follow the beaten trail, or the railroad, for there are men lurking along the highway, and along the ties, looking for you and the two hundred and fifty dollars reward. Climb into and out of ravines, make wide détours, try to find the railroad which seems to have vanished, watch some shadow that appears to be endowed with life while your heart almost seems to cease its beating. Shun every habitation, or sign of habitation, for fear of your fellow-man. Even the dogs seem to scent you unheard-of distances, and there is no way to stop their snarling. Do all this as Brady did, and live!

Back to the friendly hills went Brady, and at the break of day far north of the Springs in a cavern he rested. The pangs of hunger were added to the pains of thirst, and he had all the day to stay and suffer. Now and then he dropped into a fitful doze and dreamed of banquets and bubbling springs, only to wake half-mad and look out across the shimmering sand and wonder where and how far the Springs were. When the rays of the sun were making long shadows behind the hills, Brady was first conscious of studying idly a bird on a rock. How odd it looked with its red neck and the side-long contemplative glance and,— then a circling object caught his eye, and as it swung just above him and hung suspended for a fleeting instant, determining if the feast were yet ready, reason said, "buzzards" and that came back which put our men on Missionary Ridge, which sends them into the frozen North, or where the Southern Cross burns brightest; wherever there is something to conquer; that bulldog courage that has carried the stars and stripes so many times to victory. He sat up and stared about him. Where was he? Where had he wandered? To the south and west must lie the railroad.

Some time during the following night he found a "cow trail," and in a cow track was some damp earth, and he nursed from the mud a little moisture. Just as the sun rose, footsore and with swollen tongue, he crept into the shade of a rock, and with dim eyes saw, almost below him, the little Arizona town of Peach Springs. With his eyes fixed on those red buildings that to his distorted vision seemed to be drifting slowly away, sleep overcame the pursuer-cursed brain, and it was late when he finally drifted back to water-haunted consciousness and realized that the old spring which he was striving so fiercely to reach was only another dream.

That night a being with its tongue so swollen that it protruded between its teeth, a beast to stand between whom and water meant death to one or both, crept up and lay under where the water dripped, and absorbed the liquid into every pore, and, not knowing or caring why it dripped, could not bless the pumper who had filled the tank to overflowing. He touched the water with his lips; it was his mistress. He let it drip through his fingers; he was a boy again, and playing in the waters of boy-

hood. It meant freedom, and as the word drifted across his vision the first law of nature came back.

A freight stopped at the little station, and the crew threw something off — boxes, ham and bacon. The latter he dare not touch, but a box-cover was loose, and he took a can of beans and tipped the box so that the other cans would roll about as if broken open when thrown from the car. An old canteen was hanging on the wall of the section house; it was hugged deliriously. Food, and a way to carry water — the gates of freedom were wide open! Then came the weary hours of covering his trail, for things were missing, and the gates of Yuma were open behind, and the gates of Paradise opening in front. When morning came Brady was in the hills, and a gentle wind came and smoothed the few marks yet remaining in the sand.

He came again that night, and, listening at a window from which came light and voices, learned that there was five hundred on his head, and the old Wells Fargo two hundred and fifty. He looked at his manacled hands, and the price of his freedom made it the more dear.

He traveled the more rapidly now, for he could go from tank to tank without suffering so very much except from hunger and blistered feet, and they, like the hand that toils, were getting calloused, so he traveled freer each night. From Peach Springs to Hackberry was not bad, because it is a land where, for the desert, water is abundant, but from Hackberry to Kingman only the Creator and Brady knows what he suffered and how he lived.

At Kingman he found what his every effort had been exerted to find, but out on the desert tools are scarce, and if you lose any when you are in the employ of the railroad you have to pay for them, so the tools are locked up. He had a file. It wasn't very sharp, but he could cut the chain and get his hands free, and then it was only a question of time and work to get the irons off his wrists and ankles. The country was rather familiar here, too, and he knew he could leave the railroad at Franconia, reach the Colorado River, go down it into Mexico, and then his mind ran riot.

It is thirty-seven miles from Kingman to Franconia, and when the dark outlines of the few buildings that make the town suddenly

grew out of the darkness and sand the man could not believe the evidence of his own senses, but hunted the signboard, and was even then somewhat doubtful, for the time had passed so quickly in his new freedom that the long miles of greasewood and sand had faded as had all the horrors of the past weary days.

Several miles southwest of Franconia Brady crawled into the shade of a deep arroyo and sought the last day of slumber midst the creeping horrors of the desert. But oblivion would not come to the body and mind now apparently free from bondage. His mind was filled with what he would do with his life, so dearly bought. After trying for some time to drift into unconsciousness, he began to file the shackles from his ankles. The sun was yet two hours high when he climbed to the level of the plain, for he couldn't remain inactive, he must test this new sensation, no dragging iron on his ankles and a corresponding lightness of the heart. He looked about to get his bearings before starting on his joyous trip to the river, — again came that tightening of the heart strings. Out across the brush his eye had caught a moving object; was it a man-hunter? As an animal, first scenting danger, crouches to the ground, so crouched Brady; his hands were clenched and the breath was hissing through his set teeth; was he to lose now?

The hunted animal has not the power to reason his chances of escape, but flees upon the slightest suspicion of discovery until he is cornered, and then fights blindly to the death. Brady studied each and every point; if the officer was cognizant of his being here in the vicinity of the "Needle rocks" flight was out of the question. If the officer was alone and he could spring upon him unawares, the chances were about even, but would an officer be out looking for him alone? He decided to wait and see, and if the man had come here alone then it was just a matter between themselves who would be the victor; if there was more than one, then he could only give a good accounting of himself. Carefully he wrapped an old piece of cloth around his file, to serve as a handle, and like a jaguar watching his prey he waited.

The beast gradually left his face and a puzzled expression came. The object was coming his way, but it was zigzagging about, circling, disappearing in the brush and reappearing going in a new direction, and apparently at times crawling on its knees. Brady

was now on his feet, shading his eyes, and if it had not been so thoroughly impossible he would have thought the object a woman. Suddenly it began to rush madly about and Brady saw it disappear into a ravine and, throwing caution to the winds, he dashed out to where he had last seen the object, and there, clawing into the earth at the bottom of the arroyo, was what was left of a once beautiful woman.

Just at sunrise her shattered reason came back, and throughout the day Brady fed her scraps of food, and nourished her with his scanty stock of water, until with the coming of night she could stand erect. Then came the return. She was neither strong of heart nor limb and could not walk with her swollen and blistered feet. Half carrying and half dragging, he got her to a road within a few miles of Franconia. Pointing out the way to the town, he told her he had to leave her and think of his own safety. She asked him not to leave her — just to go in sight of the town — and, putting self away, he went, until dimly across the starlit space could be seen a dark spot, which he told her was the town. She was weak, footsore, and hysterical, and she begged him to name a price, anything within reason, just to stay with her until daylight and the town were nearer. He told her that he had been three nights and two days without sleep now, and before he could travel he must get rest, and the short remaining time he must utilize in securing his own safety, for with day came danger to him. On her knees she implored him to stay. Nothing, simply nothing, would be refused him, and she tried to get a coquettish tone into her voice, but freedom was beckoning and Brady turned to the hills. Then she asked for the sake of her poor old mother, and Brady hesitated. He saw his own mother, before death called her, waiting the return of her boy, and somewhere a mother was waiting and, if she knew that her daughter was out on the desert, she was watching and praying for her safe return; so, just as the east began to gray, he turned toward the hills and freedom. When the sun rose he was a speck on the sand and she staggered into the town and told her story, and the people of the desert fed and clothed her, and she drank of the elixir of life.

Those simple children of the barren wastes couldn't tell her how she might let her friends on Bill Williams River know of her

safety, but Sheriff Crawford, who had stayed in the town over night, surely could, so he was called. In the ensuing conversation, she asked if he was in search of an escaped convict, and he told her no, that he was down just on some official business. And then, her curiosity aroused more than ever, she asked if there were not a convict at large, and he told her no, that the only one who had escaped lately was long ere this a victim of the silent wastes that she had been guided from by some divine power.

Then she asked about him. *Seven hundred and fifty dollars reward!* Why, it would buy beautiful dresses, rings, a piano, — he had saved her life, but he was an escaped criminal, a danger to the community, and some one else would have found her, any way, she was such a little way from the town. She forgot that when found she had been traveling towards the Hualapia Mountains, directly out into the land of death. Perhaps she did not know. She would be a heroine! Would she get the reward? she asked. Yes, he knew she would get five hundred any way, for he would pay two hundred and fifty, and the Wells Fargo people always paid the same. Again came a whisper, — he saved your life. But it would be compounding a felony and a sin to conceal the whereabouts of a criminal.

She closed her eyes and, floating before them, were the pictures of a woman driving from the ranch house of a friend and a lazy wandering about in the adjacent hills. Then the woman got out of the cart and did not tie the gentle old horse; a rabbit jumped from a clump of brush and the horse was away; the woman was dashing madly after him, and suddenly she realized that she was tired and thirsty; and she forced the nails into the palms of her hands as she thought of all that had followed until she had looked into the face of that dangerous criminal.

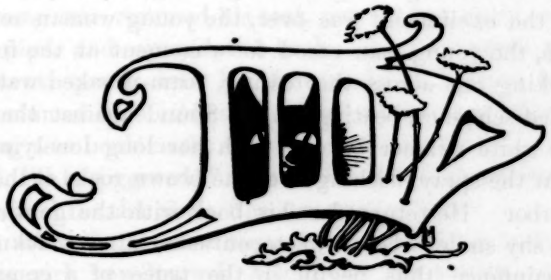
Into the shade of a deep arroyo Brady crawled and, worn out with the events of the last two days and nights, fell into a troubled sleep. No thought of a viper's sting worried him. Why, a coyote wouldn't do that!

In the land of his dreams he was back in the home of his boyhood. How joyously he snuggled down in the coziness of his bed! Then it must be morning, for he could hear that voice calling him, — a voice that had been silent for many years. It was just his dear

old mother, and he would pretend that he did not hear and she would come and gently shake him and say, "My boy, the larks are calling." The sainted form entered the doorway of his dream, and her eyes were smiling eyes and her voice was low and sweet.

Brady stirred uneasily, for the voice was harsh, and it was not calling "My boy," but "Brady," and his name wasn't Brady in those days.

Slowly consciousness came and the blue eyes faded to gray, and the gray hair became a white hat, and the hand that in dreamland had been extended to caress him, now held a .45. The gates of freedom were closed, and the prison gates at Yuma were open.



Whom Destiny Pursued.*

BY JOHN PALMER GAVIT.

SELECTING the moment when the sun broke through the clouds at the turning of the tide and lighted up the angry green, white-capped waves, the Higgs baby, leaning over the veranda rail, fell with a shriek of terror into the rose-bush, and the young man and young woman who had been reading at opposite ends of the veranda jumped from their seats, dropped their books, and rushed to the rescue. The child was injured only in her dignity, and her fall would have had small importance in this narrative had it not marked the End of a Beginning — or the Beginning of a Beginning, if you prefer.

When the excitement was over, the young woman returned to the house, the young man stood for a moment at the foot of the steps, looking out across the tossing, foam-streaked water, at the close-reefed schooner, beating up the Sound against the wind; at the great white steamer beyond, with her long low-lying trail of smoke; at the spray, dashing over the brown rocks at the entrance of the harbor. He returned to his book with the gentle recollection of a shy smile, whose sweet confusion almost acknowledged the acquaintance thus begun in the truce of a common helpfulness.

One in Finland, the other in Timbuctoo, they might have dwelt the past five years and known no less of each other. Yet in all that time they had lived within one short block in a narrow street of city boarding houses; had walked mutually oblivious over the same pavement — an hour apart in time, a world apart in fact!

Once only he had overslept, and passed her on his hurried way to his office. She was going in the same direction, and he noticed

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her trim and dainty figure and pretty hair. She noticed him not at all. On Sundays he slept usually until some time after she had gone to church, and their meal-times were an hour apart. Thus they never chanced to meet, and the singular coincidence which sent them off to their vacations on the same day and to the same place on the Connecticut shore found them still strangers.

Let so much of introduction sufficiently explain why these two, the only guests to arrive that morning at the Silver Sands House, came down from their rooms at almost the same moment, and passed out upon the veranda without speaking or affecting to notice each other.

"Her name is Martha McLean — she's a school-teacher in New York," the landlord explained to the group of smokers in the billiard-room. "She spent the summer here two years ago. A mighty sweet girl, and pretty as a picture, as you can easy see. She told me she hadn't a relative on God's green earth. The fellow? I never seen him before, but he writes a good fist, and paid for two weeks in advance. That's a certificate of character in a hotel, you know," he added with a chuckle.

The young man resumed his seat, put his feet again on the rail, relit his pipe, and opened the book. An expression of intense astonishment sprang into his face as he took from it a bit of faintly-perfumed blue ribbon, in place of the card which he had been using as a book-mark.

"Well, I'll be jiggered!" he exclaimed, half aloud, instinctively looking round for the girl. She was not in sight.

"Now, who would have supposed — she didn't look like that kind of a girl, you know! I took her for a nice, sweet, well-behaved little party, ready enough to be friendly if one were properly introduced and all that sort of thing, but sure to take offense if a fellow should look at her more than about so much. By George, you never can tell. All the same she's a dainty little baggage."

Just then the dinner bell broke in with its discordant jangle, and going indoors he stopped at the register on the office desk, to see who she might be. They met at the dining-room door, and as he stepped aside to let her pass in before him, she looked at him in a frightened way, and flushed to the roots of her hair. Their

seats at table were relatively far apart, and back to back. After dinner, she passed out of the room some moments in advance of him, and he did not see her leave the house by the back way, pass swiftly down the path to the woods, a book under her arm, a white parasol adding somewhat superfluously to the shade afforded by her wide-brimmed hat.

From his front window he looked out upon the Sound toward the dim haze of the Long Island shore, against which snow-white sails shone in the afternoon sun, and cogitated thus:

"Don't it beat the Dutch — that quiet little thing, with her demure mouth, and her thoughtful gray eyes! I suppose the best thing for me to do, unless I want to flirt with the little adventuress, will be to ignore the whole business. As the only young people here, I dare say we shall be talked about enough as it is. I'll take a walk and think it over."

He was whistling gaily as he flicked off the heads of the long grasses that lined the way. That path leads through the woods along the brow of the cliff all the way round the west side of the harbor, till you turn either down the rocky footway that takes you to the Horse-shoe Beach, or sharply to the right to the open space at the top of the promontory where the light-house stands.

Hesitating at the dividing of the unfamiliar way, the young man at last turned down toward the beach, where the surf still roared after the storm of the morning. A shady nook between two rocks attracted him; and he comfortably ensconced himself, "Paul and Virginia" lying open on the sand beside him, while he searched his pockets for a match. One he found, and one only — a flimsy broken-backed affair, with only half a head.

"Another count in the indictment against the little siren," he growled. "If I had not been engrossed with her, I should have remembered to stock up before I left the hotel. I don't believe I'm Irish enough to get a light in this breeze with this miserable wreck of a match."

The shelter of his hands proved unavailing, and after one tiny aromatic puff, the flame was out. He flung the offending fragment from him with a snort of disgust, and thrust the pipe into his jacket pocket, forgetting it instantly in the shock of a startling discovery. The leaves of his book, whisked over in the wind, had

left only the front cover open, and the title page displayed to his astounded gaze a dainty signature:

MARTHA D. McLEAN,
No. 94 WEST 999TH STREET,
NEW YORK CITY.

"Gee whiz! This isn't my book!" he cried. "How in thunder did I come by it? It's 'Paul and Virginia' fast enough, but my copy had my own name in it! I see how it was — the mix-up when the kid fell off the porch! No wonder I had to cut those pages twice. Well, I'm glad about that ribbon, anyway, even if it does write me down a conceited ass. I'd rather be an ass than find her a — oh, I beg your pardon!"

He stepped round the rock, and found himself gazing blankly into the white face and blazing eyes of Martha McLean!

Inevitable Fate, I presume to assert, had turned Martha's steps back from the light-house and down the steep path to the Horseshoe Beach, to a seat beside that self-same rock only a few moments after the young man had settled himself upon its other side. She made herself comfortable, adjusted her parasol, and opened her book in its shade. She was speaking to herself:

"I guess he will understand that I am not that sort of person," she was saying, and firmly closed her lips till only a thin line remained — a feminine institution which requires no description. "What have I done that this man should take advantage of me in this fashion? This is what it means to be a woman, and alone in the world — the mark for every designing man whose path you cross!"

Her eyes were dim with tears of mortification and distress, as she took from the book a business-card, on the back of which was written the cause of her perturbed soliloquy — this astounding message:

"I will call on you, if you please, at four o'clock. Please do not fail me. Yours, W. B. JACKSON."

"I will impress upon this young upstart that every lonely girl he meets is not necessarily to be regarded as his natural prey. And he doesn't look like that kind of man at all. Dear me, I was thinking of him as a fellow who would be kind to his sisters and loyal to his mother. How gentle he was with that little child!

But you never can judge by appearances — I should have thought myself old enough to have learned that. Anyway, he will understand by his failure to find me that I am not the kind to be 'called on at four o'clock!'"

She shut the offending card into her book with a vicious snap, then with a sigh laid her head back against the rock, and looked away across the harbor. Suddenly she sat bolt upright, startled by the snap of a sputtering match close to her ear, and a fragrant whiff of smoke blew past her face, bringing her to her feet with white lips and fluttering heart, as the very subject of her indignation faced her with his startled apology.

"You are — you are ahead of time, Mr. — Mr. Jackson," she said, as calmly and sarcastically as her demoralized condition of mind would permit. It is not yet four o'clock."

"Why, I — no, I believe not," he stammered, equally taken aback, and taking out his watch; "it is only — that is, it is just five minutes of four! I beg your pardon, I did not mean to intrude."

"I can judge of your intentions only by your actions," she said, gaining courage from his evident embarrassment. "Apparently you take it for granted that every woman is eager to cultivate your acquaintance upon your slightest overture."

"But, my dear madam, I assure you. I — "

"I have no patience with your assurances," she exclaimed; "your conduct is unmistakable and abominable. I am not so unsophisticated as not to know how men of your type regard a woman, especially if she seem alone and defenceless in the world."

"You are unreasonably severe," he protested. "You misconstrue a mere accident — "

"Is it a 'mere accident,' as you call it, Mr. Jackson," she cried, "that you presume to thrust yourself upon me without introduction, and without my slightest intimation by word or sign that your acquaintance is desired? I want you to understand that there is one woman capable of interpreting your designs and of defending herself. I dare say you thought I would be your easy prey, but you are to find yourself in this instance exceedingly mistaken."

"I do not understand you," he declared, aghast at this torrent

of denunciation. A sense of injured innocence was coming to his rescue.

"Of course not! How could you understand a lonely girl having the temerity to resent any advances which you might condescend to offer? You send me an insulting message, and when I take steps to avoid a personal encounter with you, you pursue me as if I were your legitimate spoil, of which you shall by no means be defrauded. And when I face you with your shame, you 'do not understand!' But I trust that for once you —"

"I sent you no message," he exclaimed, hotly. "I have no idea what you mean! I came here, if you please, to be by myself."

"Do you dare to deny, Mr. Jackson, that you —"

"By the way," he interrupted, somewhat impatiently, "allow me to suggest that you discontinue calling me Jackson. My name, by your leave, is Varney — I much prefer it, and hitherto have had no reason to be ashamed of it."

She stopped with a gasp, as if he had struck her. Then she took the guilty card from the book and thrust it at him, demanding:

"What have you to say, then, to that? Do you use another name only for the delectation of defenceless women? I found that in my book!"

He glanced at the card, struggled an instant with a torrent of conflicting emotions, then burst into shameless laughter, in which immense relief was evident. Whereupon her indignation flashed into flame, and she blazed upon him with angry tears in voice and eyes:

"No doubt it is very amusing for you, sir! But I fail to see the humor of it. If I had a father or brother —"

He became serious instantly.

"I beg your pardon, Miss —Miss McLean. It certainly is not amusing in that sense. It is, or might have been, a serious matter. But I am happy — more so than you can well appreciate — to say that I am quite innocent of that of which you have very naturally accused me. Will you be so good as to let me have that book a moment?"

Reluctantly, and very much on her guard, as if against some manner of ambush, she surrendered it to him. He flung the cover

open, and placed his finger at the top of the title-page, upon the strong, forceful signature:

RICHARD W. VARNEY.
HIS BOOK.

"An extraordinary coincidence in our literary taste, Miss McLean, has led us to this embarrassment, and to mutual misunderstanding and misjudgment. Permit me to restore to you your own volume, and with your permission to retain my own."

The rosy flush of her indignation fled from her face, leaving it snowlike in its pallor, then returned in a great crimson surge flooding her brow and neck, as she gasped in dismay:

"Oh, I see! I'm so sorry — how can you ever forgive me?"

Varney, smiling, extended his hand.

"We might forgive each other," he said.

And so it befell that at precisely four o'clock, as the always-punctual steamer *Margaret*, from New Haven, blew her whistle for the Silver Sands landing, these two futile fugitives from the inexorable pursuit of destiny stood hand-in-hand at last!

Eggs, $12,000 Per Dozen.*

BY DON MARK LEMON.

ASTUS JOHNSON, colored, was the pride and solicitude of the little village of New Canaan, Connecticut. The Baptists stood willing to immerse him, the Methodists were eager to sprinkle him, the Episcopalians hoped sooner or later to receive him into the fold, while the Congregationalists would have been proud to have pointed to him as a disciple who shunned the primrose path of dalliance and walked in the strait and narrow way. And since his skin had grown a shade lighter he was claimed by the Christian Scientists, for Rastus had prayed to become as his white brethren and, such is the power of mind over matter, his cuticle had suffered a change. But this latter happy state may have been due to a more frequent application of soap and water.

Then the day came when Rastus was able to read. A good lady of the village had taught him his letters, and when at last he applied that knowledge so advantageously as to peruse the *New Canaan Chronicle*, the first copy of which — warm from the press — always fell to him as a mark of special honor, the village all but arose and set the town bells a-ringing in celebration of the joyous occasion.

But alas! with knowledge comes sorrow, as the psalmist says, and this ability to read proved the undoing of Rastus. It was three o'clock on a Saturday afternoon when the old colored man suddenly stared at a particular paragraph in the paper which he had to that moment been leisurely and proudly perusing, then, letting the paper fall to the floor of the country store where he was seated, he began to groan, his black and erstwhile saintly physiognomy depicting the utmost pain and alarm.

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open, and placed his finger at the top of the title-page, upon the strong, forceful signature:

RICHARD W. VARNEY.
HIS BOOK.

"An extraordinary coincidence in our literary taste, Miss McLean, has led us to this embarrassment, and to mutual misunderstanding and misjudgment. Permit me to restore to you your own volume, and with your permission to retain my own."

The rosy flush of her indignation fled from her face, leaving it snowlike in its pallor, then returned in a great crimson surge flooding her brow and neck, as she gasped in dismay:

"Oh, I see! I'm so sorry — how can you ever forgive me?"

Varney, smiling, extended his hand.

"We might forgive each other," he said.

And so it befell that at precisely four o'clock, as the always-punctual steamer *Margaret*, from New Haven, blew her whistle for the Silver Sands landing, these two futile fugitives from the inexorable pursuit of destiny stood hand-in-hand at last!

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The bystanders hurried to his assistance and did everything in their power to relieve him, but Rastus was not to be comforted.

"Oh, good Lawd, de chicken, de chicken!" groaned the sufferer.

"Where is the pain; do tell?" pleaded Mrs. Samanthy Baxter, who was in the store at the time buying some calico with which to make handkerchiefs for foreign mission work.

Placing his hand in the region of his stomach, Rastus again groaned, "Oh, good Lawd, de chicken, de chicken!"

Mrs. Baxter sought by every Christian means in her power to soothe the sufferer. Indeed, she went so far as to beg him to recollect that his suffering was merely an error of the mind, for mind is everything, and that he could overcome it by the sheer force of will, but Rastus evidently had inside information contrary to that doctrine, and kept rubbing his stomach and groaning, "De chicken, de chicken!"

"What chicken, Mr. Johnson? Speak, poor soul!"

"De Thurston chicken! Oh, de good Lawd!"

"I knew it!" cried Mrs. Baxter. "Some wretch has poisoned one of Mr. Thurston's chickens, and now our unhappy colored brother has eaten of the chicken and been poisoned. Some one run for Doctor Thorpe, while I call on Brother Thurston!"

Leaving the sufferer groaning and writhing, Mrs. Baxter made straight for the Thurston farm on the outskirts of the village, to return a little later with her eyes as large as saucers.

"Land sakes, what do you think?" she cried. "There's a lot of city men down there, and Thurston is holding an egg auction, and when I came away they were bidding eight hundred dollars apiece for hens' eggs!"

Instantly there was a general movement on the part of the villagers toward the Thurston farm, Old Rastus Johnson, however, insisting that he be abandoned to his misery. When they reached the farm the excitement-seekers found the amazing report of Mrs. Baxter fully corroborated by the evidence of their own eyes and ears. Thurston was disposing of hens' eggs to a group of highly excited bidders at an average price of a thousand dollars for a single egg.

Open-mouthed and dumfounded the country people stared at

this amazing proceeding, wondering what on earth the world was coming to. When, finally, the strangers took their leave, bearing with them some two dozen hens' eggs and leaving behind checks payable to Thurston of the aggregate value of twenty-four thousand dollars, Thurston turned to his expectant audience and spoke as follows:

"A California genius has given us the pitless orange and the seedless grape, the spineless cactus and the thornless rose! Then why not the boneless hen?

"Three years ago I gave up my position as a bank president in New Haven and came out here, and by gradually eliminating by painless surgery the bones of certain chickens while yet very young, and later intercrossing these chickens, I have at last succeeded in producing an egg that hatches into a boneless hen. Think of it! A breed of poultry all meat and no bone; all food, no waste; no nourishment lost in building up a useless frame of bone, but every grain of corn fed the chicken going to produce pure food stuff. Yesterday I was approached by a great financier who sought to have me form a boneless poultry trust with a capital of fifty million dollars but, being opposed to all morganizations, I have thought best to dispose of my boneless eggs to men who knew a good thing when they saw it, and have just sold to enterprising buyers the first two dozen by auction. I have now under way a boneless duck, as well as a boneless hog, which latter will control the pork markets of the world. I have just received an offer of one hundred thousand dollars for a pair of these hogs; but what is one hundred thousand dollars for an animal that will upset half the business of a great city like Chicago? I snap my fingers at the sum. In time I hope to place upon the market a boneless shad, but I shall speak now rather of what I have accomplished than of what I purpose."

Exchanging glances of profound astonishment, Mr. Thurston's auditors hurried back to the store where they had left Rastus Johnson in the doctor's charge. He was still bemoaning his affliction when the villagers returned and, in answer to renewed questioning, replied:

"Good Lawd, forgive me! Las' night I done borrowed an' eat one ob dem boneless hens what is wrote about in this yeah paper.

It could 'a' laid me a lot ob dose thousan'-dollar aigs an' made me rich!'

The cause of his sudden illness was explained! While assimilating the white man's religious teachings, he had retained his racial love for chicken, and being made aware, through a notice in the *New Canaan Chronicle*, that the particular kind of chicken which he had "borrowed" and eaten the night before was capable of laying veritable "golden eggs," he had fallen sick with grief.

The Power o' Love.*

BY ADELINE KNAPP.

Once I had laughed at the power o' love
And twice at the grip o' the grave.—*Tomlinson.*

THE prao, with its ancient bamboo sail, lay so close in shore that the port outrigger rested on the beach. Salvator sprang out to push off, while Juan Pablo ran along the starboard outrigger, to put her on an even keel. They had rice, and some maize meal on board, and they must make Daltique, certainly by the next day, or — famine had pressed close in Daltique, and might press closer still before the new crops were ready.

Salvator and Juan Pablo, living back in the mountains, had not learned, until it was almost too late, that these strange Americanos, with their new government, were giving out rice, at Iloilo. They hurried down, at that word, and although Juan Pablo had no one to wait for his coming, Salvator could not get back too soon with their stores.

From a little bamboo landing-stage, close at hand, two Americans watched the embarkment disgustedly. It meant wrath and disappointment to them, for they desired Salvator's services. The only Visayan in the district who could command any English, he refused their most generous offers to go with them to the little bario, back in the jungle, where they were under orders to establish a school.

The little Filipino padre beside them lifted his shoulders, in deprecation of their black looks. He had given over trying to make them understand. He knew no English — the Americanos no Spanish, and all their intercourse was carried on in school Latin, which lent itself but sparingly to the conduct of modern business.

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"I'm always stopping to construe the stuff when I try to talk it," Marmedel said to his companion. "I was stronger on the team than in the classics, at the 'Varsity," he added, "But what the devil more does the fellow want, Brandison? Can't you get it out of the padre?"

Brandison considered, and presently evolved, in sonorous dissyllables, an equivalent of Marmedel's colloquialism. The padre replied eagerly, and at length, in ecclesiastical Latin, so little expressive of the inner situation that Brandison gathered from it but one idea: Salvator wished to return to his wife.

"Oh! Bug the luck, anyway!" Marmedel muttered, at this information. "Just as if she wouldn't rather have the *dinero* every time. That's the worst of it, though," he continued, sagely. "This comes of the nice, kind little plans of our folks at Washington. Now, for instance, if the Government wasn't giving these fellows rice for the asking, they'd be glad to work. There's the case in a nutshell."

He warmed to the subject as he saw Salvator listening, a hand on the gunwale of the prao.

"This fellow here," he said, "won't do a stroke of work till his rice is gone and he's hungry again. Isn't that so? eh?" he called to the Filipino.

Salvator shook his head. He, too, had tried to explain to the señors, but his English, gathered, painfully, while body-servant to an American officer, was limited. He understood far more than he could say.

"Eh?" Marmedel pushed his question. "You'd be mighty glad of dinero if you were hungry now?"

Memories of the famine pinch were in Salvator's mind, but what could these huge red señors know of famine?

"Pickaninny hungry *now*," he ventured, "I take rice."

"Better take money to *buy* rice," Brandison said. "That bag won't last long."

The two teachers did not know. The District Superintendent was away, riding his barios, and before he went he had spoken to them but vaguely of a famine which *had* prevailed over Daltique way, in the mountains. A famine, in the past tense, is not an uncomfortable idea to one who has not known it in the present

imperative. It is rather pleasant to reflect that Government provided relief, and it is all over.

Juan Pablo, balancing on the starboard outrigger, called to his partner in gutteral, explosive Visayan. There was no time to linger. Salvator, pushing the prao well away from the beach, sprang to the outrigger, ran along the frail, slippery structure, and picked up his iron-shod bamboo pole, while Juan Pablo hauled at the sheets. Two or three pole-thrusts, now one side, now the other, and they were in deep water. The light bamboo sail caught and filled in the breeze, and they danced away, the far-spread outriggers flicking the water as the prao rose and fell.

"Looks like a big dragon-fly skimming the water," Marmedel commented, as he watched the retreating craft. "If that fellow'd had any ambition we could have made him mighty useful."

Off across the sunlit sea the prao fluttered on her course. Juan Pablo sang softly to himself, squatted in the cock-pit, his back braced against the side, but Salvator's face was joyless and lowering as he sat astern, easing the sheet to the give and take of the sail. Never before had he known discontent. To go with the Americanos would have met his heart's desire, had it not been for Home — Home, and hungry wife and children. It was well for Juan Pablo to sing and be happy; he knew nor cared that there were needs and possibilities beyond the day's food and enjoyment, but he, Salvator, had seen, and learned. This was a dog's life, even as the big, red señor had said. He was being dragged back to it, and elsewhere, in this very land, were things he could only dream of; never know; never grasp.

"But what sorrow is it, not to go with the señors?" Juan Pablo interrupted his song to ask. "They go far from home."

Salvator snarled, contemptuously.

"What sorrow is it that a man should live as a dog?" he answered.

As Juan Pablo stared in silent amaze, he went on:

"The señor said the word, and it is a true one. To hunger and thirst, and be glad of a handful of rice; to dig, to drive the carabao, to eat, and sleep, and wake to dig again." Salvator's tirade broke off in a bitter laugh. His companion looked perplexed. His mind had never conceived a problem.

"But it is life," he ventured, remonstrant, "and there is dancing, and the cock-fight, and love, and the little ones——"

Salvator laughed again.

"May the alligator eat all fools," he sneered. "Life? It is only death alive; and love, and children? Seven thieves! But they kill a man and drink his blood!"

Juan Pablo crossed himself, hastily.

"Mother of Mercy!" he cried, "Must one not fear God? I have no wife or child, but neither do I blaspheme the good gift."

Salvator's laugh was more bitter still, but he did not reply. He was looking far ahead, where sea and sky had taken on a gray sheen, with here and there white flecks on the crest of an occasional slow-breaking wave. The sun, round, and sickly pale, beat hotly down on the little boat, and in the direction of Salvator's gaze showed the lines, and the curling black smoke, of a small steamer.

Both men recognized the craft. It was an inter-island transport, and its genial young captain was known throughout Visayan ports as "the kind Americano." As the boats drew together a Visayan sailor came forward on the steamer and hailed them.

"Better turn back, the Captain says," this was his message, "The typhoon comes."

The sky was changing, swiftly. It and the sea were a smoky yellow, now, the latter running slow and heavy, like strained honey. The air had become breathless, and the black, soft-coal smoke from the transport's stacks hung close above the waters. Juan Pablo looked at Salvator in dismay.

"We must go back," he said.

Apparently the other did not hear. He was staring seaward, ponderingly.

"The Captain does not know," he said, at last, "and there is famine at home. We must take the rice thither."

"Nay, but the prao would never ride the typhoon," Juan Pablo persisted. "And as for the famine—" his shoulders went up in a submissive shrug, "What comes, comes, and the Americano señors would be glad of your company."

Ah! that thought had already been in the other's mind, but an angry sense of responsibility over-rode it.

"We must take the rice home," he muttered, sullenly, holding on his course. The useless sail had been run down, and he was wielding a long oar while Juan Pablo sat on the gunwale, debating.

"We can never do it," the latter cried, rising in alarm, "Turn back, or we shall die!"

"I turn not back," Salvator said, savagely. "If you are afraid, there is the steamer. Doubtless the kind Americano will take you in."

For reply, Juan Pablo suddenly sprang up, and with a loud cry to the receding transport, jumped overboard. The American captain saw the action, and a moment later his command, scarcely larger than a good-sized launch, came about. The swimming Visayan was taken aboard, and through a sailor the American sent another warning across the water to Salvator. The latter shook his head, and presently the captain came round to his course again, muttering an imprecation on the crazy Filipino. He dared not risk his own ancient little craft in the coming storm, and was hurrying to safety.

Salvator cast one look back at the fading transport, and bent to his oar. The sea lapped oily smooth, in a long, soft swell, past either gunwale, and the prao rose and fell with its slow undulations, in a quiet that yet was not peace. The Filipino's thin jusi camisa clung to him wetly, but underneath the damp, oppressive heat a vague suggestion of chill made itself felt, and he shivered.

As he did so, the prao gave a sudden lurch, which threw him forward upon his big oar. He recovered his balance with a grunt — the wood had struck him in the stomach — and wiped his streaming face upon his sleeve. Along the sky, on the north and the east, heavy banks of black cloud hung, and though it was still clear overhead, he knew that rain was coming. He rolled his wide, flapping, cotton trousers up to his hips, and covered his cargo more securely; there were two bags of rice and one of American maize meal.

He rolled these in the rubber poncho of an American cavalryman, who had sold it to the Filipino, in defiance of regulations, when a thirst was on him. Salvator made the package fast to the mast, with a strong lashing of bejuca, the native rattan, and again applied himself to rowing.

The yellow-black sea heaved and sank, slower and more heavily, running to meet the yellow-black sky. East and north the clouds were mounting higher, and Salvator could do little more, in the terrible heat, than stir his oar languidly, yet every now and then came that little hint of chill in the air. The prao gave a heavier lurch than any before, and shipped a lot of water, whereupon he left off rowing, and began to bail.

Glancing upwards from this task, a sudden terror seized him, of the ominous sky. He sprang to his oar once more, and put the prao about. Love of life filled him, and he redoubled his panting efforts to make headway over that slow sea. He was headed, now, for the shore whence he had set out. He could never make Daltique; but if he could get back to Iloilo he might yet go with the teacher-señors.

Another lurch of the prao — the swell was growing heavier, and instinctively he glanced at his cargo. It would be unnecessary, in Iloilo. The thought awoke memory. Paula and the two little ones waited for rice, which no one but he would bring them.

His spirit leaped to fierce anger at the thought. There was Juan Pablo, who was contented at Daltique, yet no ties held him; he could go back to safety; even to the wider life for which he did not care. Only he, Salvator, who knew and desired; who had seen the wider vision, must go on, staggering to the end, under the burden of his dog's life. He knew that he must go, and he cursed, in his heart, the yearning which drew him, despite ambition and desire, to the hopeless effort promising only death.

Sullenly, his anger burning deeper and deeper still into the fibre of him, he turned the prao again, with difficulty, this time, in that treacly sea, and once more the long oar complained against the gunwale, as he steered toward the black clouds, now half-way up the sky. They rushed to meet the little craft as she came about, and, yawning above her, loosed their surcharge of flood.

She stood still and shuddered under the impact. Salvator, his oar knocked from his grasp, was beaten down, bodily, by the weight of descending rain. He sprang up, on the instant, and again grasped his oar. The rush of the storm seemed, for a moment, actually to whip the sea into quiet; then the wind came, and the prao was swept forward in its mad embrace.

The first wave that went over her broke the bamboo mast just above the lashings of the rice sacks, and swept her of everything she contained, save the man, and his precious cargo. She was full of water, from gunwale to gunwale; only the straining outriggers kept her afloat.

Crawling along through the wash, Salvator felt their fastenings. One had started, and he fumbled, with sodden fingers, at the stout bejuca withes. A blackness of darkness had descended upon the sea, and it was bitter cold. Looking seaward as he worked at the lashing, the man saw, by a dart of the lightning's forked tongue, a white portent racing toward him. Higher and higher it loomed, until, crazed by its menace, he shrieked out, in defiance. He clutched at the gunwale as the crushing smother rushed upon him, and one arm, slipping in between the lashings, held him, gasping, and half-drowned. The next wave, more merciful, lifted the little craft high upon its curling crest.

As she rolled down into the trough the bejuca withes tore loose, parted, and the starboard outrigger swung free at one end, dipping the prao's nose under. Flinging out upon the other outrigger the man clung, cat-like, with legs and arms, and brought her up again. He had no sense of peril. He was conscious only that a blind rage impelled him to fight the forces assailing him. He clung to the outrigger, as the next wave whelmed him, and cursed sea and sky and storm, in his fury. Then the forward lashing of the loosened outrigger gave way, and the prao careened, but he swung out on the long reach of the other side, and balanced her for an instant longer.

Only for an instant, however. As he hung there a lull came, during which he heard a new sound, above the beat of the rain and the rush of the sea. It was the roar of surf, and he knew that the end was near. He had scarcely noticed it when there was a churning whirl, a sound of grinding, a crashing blow from some unrecognized source, and, still cursing, he passed into mighty silence.

He came out of it slowly, hearing vaguely, for a long time, ere his wandering consciousness returned, the roar and fury of the sea, behind him. Far above him gleamed a bit of black sky, across which stars raced madly, fleeing from clouds that pursued

them. Just beyond reach the sea still raged at him, dashing in angry threat against intervening rocks, beyond which he had been flung. He lay, spent and shipwrecked, on a shelving bit of the cliff, safe, until some comber, craftier than its fellows, should manage to tear him off.

Stretching exploring hands hither and thither in the darkness, he laid hold upon something which brought perception back to him. One of the bags of rice, bursted, and despoiled of half its contents, had been flung up beside him. He staggered to his feet, and pressed against the cliff, feeling eagerly, in the darkness, to determine his surroundings. On three sides arose perpendicular rocks; the fourth side opened toward the maddened sea, which every now and again stretched savage, yearning fingers across the rocky guards of his slight harborage.

Stripping off his soaked camisa, he knotted the sleeves together about the neck, and into the bag thus formed he put the broken sack of rice. Some strands of twisted bejuca still clung to it, and with these he secured the package to his shoulders, passing a fastening over his head, as well. He worked intermittently, as the flashes of electricity gave him light. The storm was increasing in fury, and the sea's menacing fingers clutched at him more than once, before he finally turned his back upon it, and began to climb the cliff.

Slowly, slowly, now feeling his way in the blackness, now noting it by the lightning's instant glare, he crept upwards, clinging to a projection here, setting his foot in a crevice there, fighting his way, inch by inch, with torn hands and feet, and abraded, bruised limbs. His right forearm was open to the bone, down its length, but the sea, even despite its fury, had salted the wound, and washed it clean. A dreadful gash gaped across his forehead, but there was none to see, and for the time being he was past feeling.

He reached a ledge across the cliff, and stood upright upon it, feeling along the surface above him for new holds. Everywhere was smooth, wall-like rock, and he moved off sidewise, continuing his blind search, until, far to the left, the surface again became broken and rugged, and he resumed his upward creeping. His burden of water-soaked rice oppressed him fearfully; he paused more and more frequently, for breath, and to wipe his bleeding

fingers upon his matted hair. He had lost all consciousness of why he crawled upwards; only blind instinct kept him moving, clinging from point to point, scaling each difficult inch with no thought for the next one. At last, setting his right foot where his right hand had just clung, he raised himself, pressing close to the rock, and his seeking fingers found no projection, or least hold, on the cliff's smooth face. Here, at last, was the end.

The gale at his back pressed him close to the rock, and he lay there, numbly, awaiting the instant when, his last strength departing, he should dash downwards, to the waiting sea. Every nerve in him recognized the inevitableness of this instant, and deadly fear smote him. He could feel the weight of his burden pulling him backwards, and he half moved, with an instinct to throw it off.

At the faint motion something stirred in the depths of his nature. Before his eyes seemed to rise the little nipa hut beside his young rice patch, and Paula's face, hunger-pinched and yearning, as she hushed the wee creature tugging at her breast. He could see small Matteo as he last beheld him, gnawing patiently at the end of a dry cane-stalk, and his soul yearned in tenderness over the vision. What were life, or wider reach, or opening knowledge, if these, heart of his heart, flesh of his flesh, were not to be in it?

He pressed his forehead against the cliff. He spread out his hands, and leaned his bare chest close to the rock. Thus he clung, like any limpet, while the tumult of fear within him slowly sank. His nerves steadied again, and he watched, alertly, for each recurring flash of lightning to show him the face of the wall before him.

Far on his left, he at last made out, the rock shelved boldly, but the utmost reach of his arm fell short of that chance for safety. Save for his frail foot perch, his only hold upon the rock was the pressure of his body, — the clinging touch of his open palms.

These latter he began shifting, line by line, never raising them, until, although his feet had not moved, his body leaned to the left. Every perception was alert, now, and with breathless caution, his left foot crept sidewise along the rough projection on which he stood. Presently that projection ended, and upon its last edge his foot paused. He shifted his weight and slowly dragged his right foot along. There was but the merest chance, and it seemed an

eternity before, reaching again, his hands touched the edge of the shelf above him. He waited, not daring to essay the ultimate hope, husbanding his strength for the last effort. The next glare from heaven should light his attempt.

When it came, it showed a crevice in the rock, and he thrust his knee into it as he threw himself forward. Panting, he clung, for an instant, then dragged himself up and fell, face down, on the shelving, rocky platform, his whole frame shaking with sobs of exhaustion.

The quick dawn found him there, and roused him from slumber, showing him the top of the cliff, close above him. Gaining it, he washed some of his rice in rainwater caught in a hollow of the rock. He ate it and went on his way, threading the mountain ways, hour after hour, heedless of the sun's fierce heat or the jungle's tangle, resting but the shortest of half-hours, in the middle of the day, until, as the afternoon was closing, he staggered out upon a mesa overlooking his home. Below him, like a sheet of green fire, his young rice field glowed with promise. Bamboo and hemp trees waved against the crimsoning sky, and leaning from the door of the hut, Paula called little Matteo in from the evening's damp.

Salvator watched her for a moment ere he gave a low call. She turned, looking upwards, and her cry of greeting was almost a moan.

"Salvator! Is it indeed thou? Is it well with thee? And hast thou brought food?"

He was speeding down the familiar trail, staggering weakly, beneath his precious load.

"It is I," he cried; "I have brought food; and it is well with us!"

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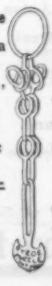

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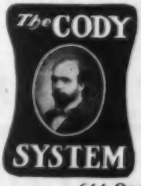

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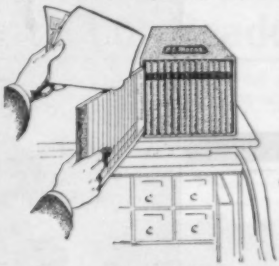

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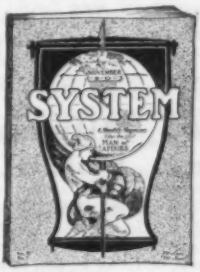

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The Paper	The paper used for this and all other issues of THE BLACK CAT was manufactured by The Poland Paper Co., Mechanic Falls, Me. Boston Office, John Hancock Building.
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The Engraving	The photo-engraving, including covers, initials, tailpieces, was done by Folsom & Sunergren, 92 Pearl St., Boston.
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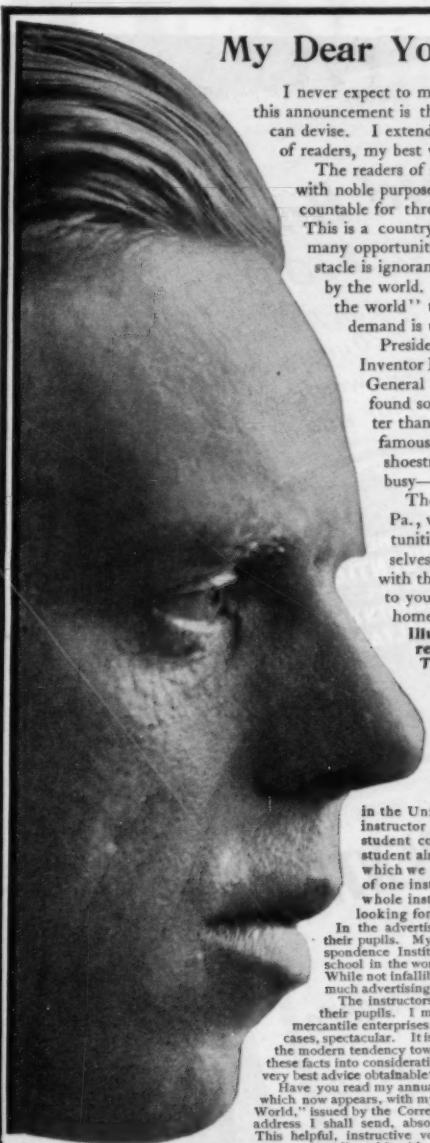

My Dear Young People:

I never expect to meet you personally. Under the circumstances this announcement is the most feasible introduction of myself that I can devise. I extend to you, as one of this publication's vast army of readers, my best wishes.

The readers of magazines, as a rule, are ambitious people, filled with noble purposes and high resolves. Lack of resolution is accountable for three-fourths of all the misfortune in the world. This is a country of possibilities. Never before were there so many opportunities open for advancement. The one great obstacle is ignorance, or inability to perform the services required by the world. For what is known as the "rough labor of the world" there are two applicants to every job. The demand is unlimited for exceptional ability.

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Have you read my annual letter which has been published in magazine form, and which now appears, with my permission, in the 128-page book, "Struggles With the World," issued by the Correspondence Institute of America? Upon receipt of your address I shall send, absolutely free, charges prepaid, this big illustrated book. This helpful, instructive volume contains about two hundred illustrations, and you cannot well read it without being benefited in your life-work.

If you wish to take a course by mail I will trust you for the tuition. My Directors have voted to issue Credit Scholarships in order that ambitious people who can ill-afford to pay a cash fee of $40.00 may begin at once the study of their chosen profession. The Credit Scholarship presents the sole means for securing an education on credit. Your mere word that you will pay when satisfied is the only requirement. The only immediate expense is a small sum of one dollar. I guarantee satisfaction or lose the remainder. I take all the risk. If you are not satisfied ten-fold you do not have to pay the balance—you decide whether or not the money is due us. We employ no collectors. To secure an education on credit, mention the profession you wish to study, and write me immediately—now—before you forget it.

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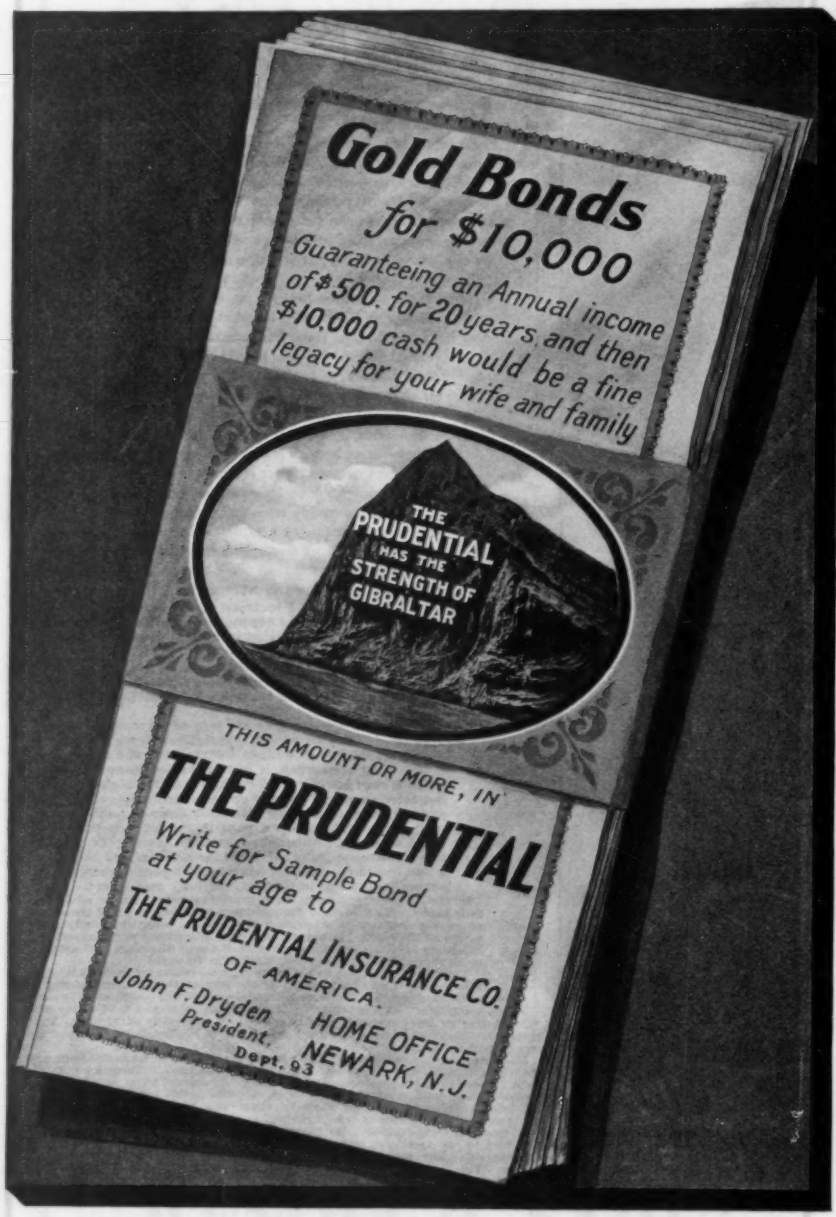
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Without expense, or deposit, or promise to pay, I offer to give any sick one a full dollar's worth of Dr. Shoop's Restorative.

Not a mere sample — a regular standard dollar bottle from your druggist's shelf.

There are no "ifs" or "ands." The dollar bottle is free.

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If the worries of business have left their scars on your good health; if careless habits have made you a wreck; if your nerve, your courage is waning; if you lack vim, vigor, vitality; if you are beginning to wear out; if your heart, your liver, your stomach, your kidneys, misbehave — this private prescription of a physician of thirty years' standing will strengthen the ailing nerves — strengthen them harmlessly, quickly, surely, till your trouble disappears.

Inside Nerves!

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Simply Write Me.

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Diamond Cutters and Manufacturing Jewelers

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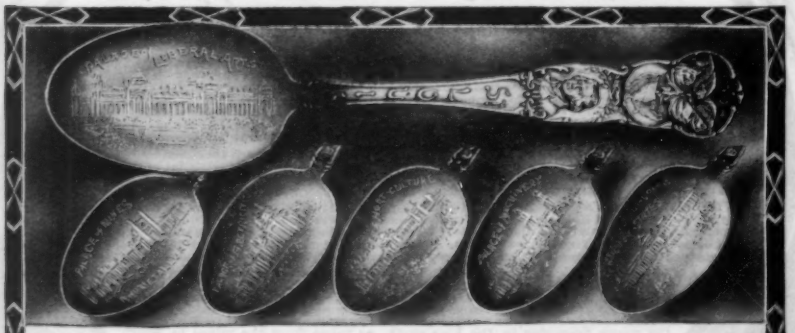

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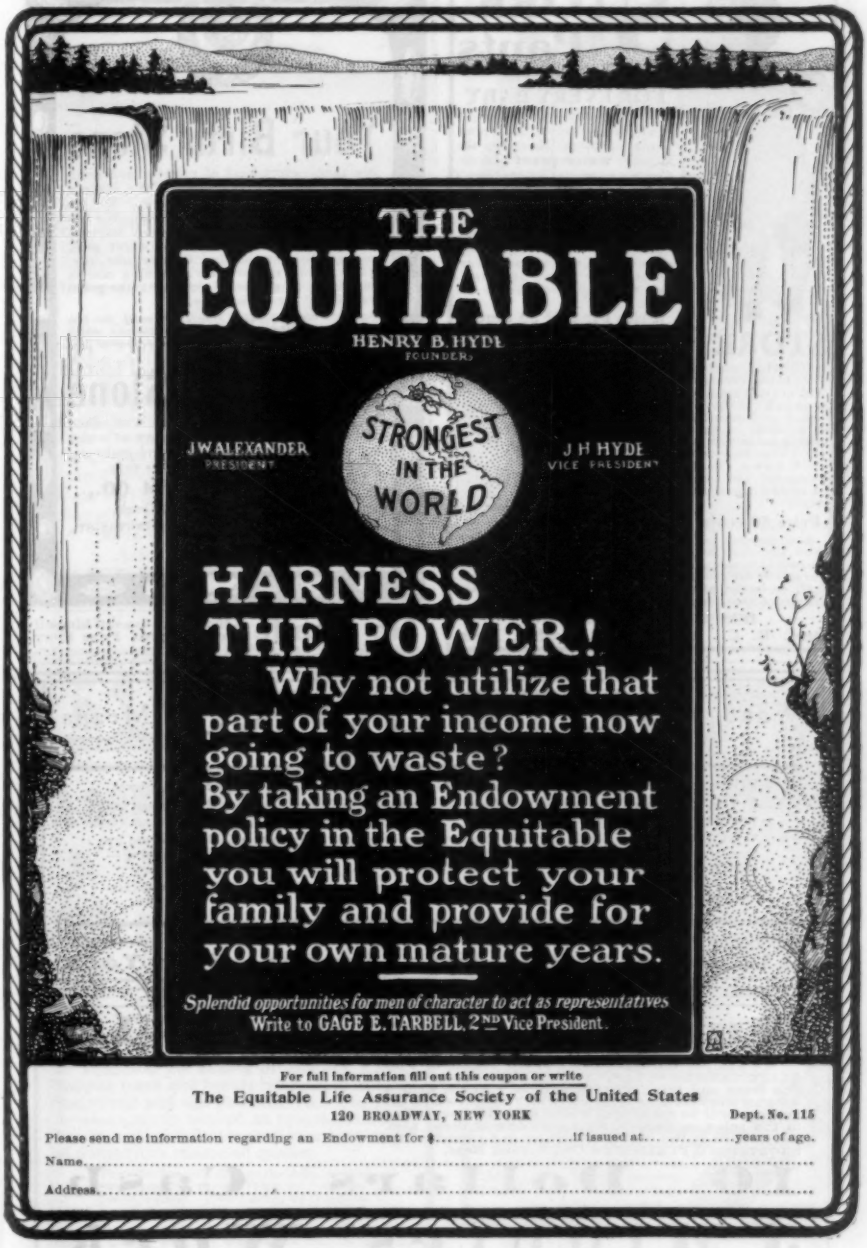
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"We bring you all Outdoors"

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Only to October 12

We will pay ten dollars cash to any reader of THE BLACK CAT who will cut out the coupon on page iv of this issue and send it to some friend who will write a winning story for $10,000 contest, which closes Oct. 12. As no story will be considered unless submitted according to the rules on page v, send your friend these also. Act at once as the contest closes on day named. THE SHORTSTORY PUBLISHING CO., Boston, Mass.

10 Dollars Cash For 5 Minutes' Work

Stories submitted for this contest postmarked October 12, 1904, will be eligible.

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$25,000.00 made from half acre. Easily grown in Garden or Farm. Roots and seeds for sale. Send 4c for postage and get booklet A G, telling all about it. MCDOWELL GINSENG GARDEN, JOPLIN, MO.

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Hundreds of ambitious persons are raising Ginseng **under my direction.** I sell the true American Ginseng, roots and seeds, and guarantee them. I can show **you** how, on a very small investment, under **my** direction, you can make money. Ginseng can be grown almost anywhere; no speculation. If you are interested in the Ginseng Industry, I will send you, free, complete information as to my methods of successful Ginseng-raising.

WRITE ME TO-DAY.

Thompson always wants a few more agents.

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It is little short of pathetic

To see a woman in this age sweeping with a corn broom, more particularly as it is not even an *economical* way of sweeping.

BUY A **Bissell "CYCO"** at once, and send us purchase slip and we will send you **free** a neat useful article.

A "Cyco" Bearing

BISSELL Sweeper

will outlast fifty corn brooms that would cost not less than $15.00, whereas the best Bissell can be bought for from **$2.50 to $4.00.**

Then consider all the other economies in using the Bissell; work accomplished in one-fourth of the time, with 95 per cent less effort, no dust, no weariness, no back aches, or sore hands. Saves and brightens your carpets and rugs—in fact, makes sweeping day a pleasant anticipation, instead of a day to be dreaded.

FOR SALE BY ALL FIRST CLASS DEALERS.

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Grand Rapids, Mich., Dept. 58.

(Largest Sweeper Makers in the World.)

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Model studies, Stereos, Beauties, etc., 100 small photos and two large ones, $1 note.

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$2,000.00 PAID FOR $1.00

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ALEXANDER & CO., Established 1873, 214 C Washington St., Boston, Mass.

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Do you want an **all-wool** suit or overcoat **made for you**, and **to fit you**, from the newest fashionable fabrics? Do you want to be **absolutely satisfied** before you pay for the garments?

Do you want a pair of **All-Wool Tailor-Made**

$5 Trousers Free

of cost to you for doing us a favor? Then **read carefully** and **act promptly** on this **Tailor-Made**

$10 Suit Offer

We will send you samples of all-wool Clay Worsteds, Thibets, Serges and Cassimeres, in black, blue, brown and fancy mixtures, from which we will make you a suit or overcoat for $10.00, **the equal of which you cannot buy for $15 anywhere else**, and give you an extra pair of $5.00 All-Wool Trousers **without charge**, providing you will hand ten sets of samples (which we furnish you free) to ten men who will be likely to buy suits on our **exceedingly liberal terms.**

Don't take our word for it. Just give us the opportunity to **prove** that we can and will **save you money** and **give you absolute satisfaction.** You take no risk. We make your suit, send it to you and give you ten days time to **actually wear the garments** to prove their positive worth. That's fair, isn't it?

Write to-day for our New All-Wool $10 Suit Samples—also ask for our Superb Imported All-Wool Fall Fabrics at $12.50, $15.00 and $18.00 special prices—our New Fall Style Book and Complete Instructions for taking measures, **all sent free**, together with our Presidential Proposition, that **pays you $2.50 in cash before you get your suit.**

Owen T. Moses & Co., 228 Moses Building, Chicago.

References: Your friends, or Milwaukee Ave. State Bank, Chicago. Capital $250,000.00.

(Corn Razor ready for use.)

Star Safety Corn Razor

Manufactured by Kampfe Bros. (manufacturers of the original and only Safety Razor of merit).

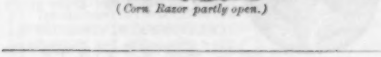
BE YOUR OWN CHIROPODIST

No skill required in using this corn razor. It is SIMPLE, SAFE and SURE, and will do its work quickly, relieving the sufferer at once. The directions which are sent with every Safety Corn Razor give clear instructions as to its use.

Please note illustrations carefully. They will give you some idea of this wonderful invention, which will absolutely remove *any corn*, no matter how hard it may be, without cutting the foot.

Price, $1.50. Full descriptive catalogue mailed on request. KAMPFE BROS., 8-12 Reade St., N. Y.

(Note other advertisement of Kampfe Bros., STAR SAFETY RAZOR in this magazine.)



(Corn Razor partly open.)

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We sell the celebrated IMPERIAL, DUPONT and MARCEAU Band Instruments at about one-half the prices others ask for the same high grade goods. For our **Free Band Instrument Catalogue**, also our **Free Booklet**, entitled, "How to Buy Band Instruments," for large illustrations and complete descriptions of our three large lines of brass instruments, also everything in Drums, Clarionets, Flutes, Saxophones, etc., etc., for the free catalogues, our guarantee and refund proposition, for the most liberal band instrument offer ever heard of, for the new method of selling instruments fully explained, for something new and immensely interesting to every bandman, cut this ad out and mail to us today.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Musical Instruments at Factory Prices

We are selling our Band Instrument Violins, Violin Strings, Accordeons, etc., at strictly factory prices. Every instrument guaranteed. Money back if dissatisfied. Large catalogue FREE. *Write to-day.*

LOUIS VITAK, Dept. 9, 204 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

Sore Eyes Cured Free.

Famous Lotion that is Absolutely Harmless and Positively Cures Sore Eyes, Granulated Lids, Wild Hairs, Ulcers, Cataracts, Bloodshot, or Inflamed or Tired Eyes.

It Makes Weak Eyes Strong and Gives Instant Relief to the Burning Pain or Soreness of Strained Eyes or Eyes Hurt by Night Work—Send Your Name and Address To-day for Free Package.

The cures being made by this magic lotion every day are truly remarkable. B. T. Gorman of Austin, Minn., says he was blind for years with cataract. He doctored with one specialist 22 months without results. Now he tells of his marvelous cure by Schlegel's Magic Eye Lotion after all others failed. Mrs. B. A. Hubbard, Plum Point, Tenn., tells of her cure in a month with this lotion after all doctors and remedies had failed for five years to cure her. To-day she can see perfectly out of both eyes. Rev. M. H. Blackman, the well-known pastor of Ovid, Pa., was cured of a case of granulated eyelids that had resisted for years all attempts of doctors to cure. Mr. George W. Byers, Owensboro, Ky., was cured of ulcers and wild hairs with this lotion after all other remedies had failed. Dora Casey, Chicago, was cured of granulated lids for which doctors treated her for five months steady, but failed to cure. Dr. J. W. Angell of Iowa, one of the oldest and best known doctors in the west, suffered with granulated lids for seven years. He tried every remedy, but failed to cure until he used Prof. Schlegel's eye lotion and one bottle gave him more relief than all the remedies he ever tried. G. Klopfer, the well-known florist of Peoria, Ill., suffered for years with weak, watery and sore eyes and spent hundreds of dollars with doctors. One bottle of Prof. Schlegel's Magic Eye Lotion cured him. It stops pain instantly. It contains no cocaine nor other harmful drugs and it cures sore or weak eyes to stay cured. The Professor is very glad to send a free package of his remedy to anyone who suffers with their eyes. Write to-day to Prof. H. T. Schlegel, 583 Mackinaw Bldg., Chicago, Ill., and be cured.

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FOSTER RUBBER HEEL

Positively Prevents Slipping

Costs No More

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THE FOSTER is the only heel which WILL NOT SLIP in wet weather. It has a Pneumatic Cushion Back, making it very elastic; at the same time the patented Friction Plug does away with all the sneaky feeling experienced in the old-fashioned plain rubber heels. It is the LIGHTEST heel made and has no unsightly holes to fill up and track mud into the house. Where the Foster has been introduced, it is outselling all other kinds put together three to one.

Recommended by leading shoe manufacturers, shoe jobbers, and shoe dealers as the BEST HEEL EVER MADE. Ask your shoeman for the *Foster*.

Once Tried, Always Worn

By mail, 35 cents per pair. Send outline of heel.

No Rubber Sole Like the Foster for Golf, Yachting, or Tennis Shoes

FOSTER RUBBER COMPANY

370 Atlantic Avenue : : Boston, Massachusetts

Send for A FREE BOX

Of the New Vapor Cure for

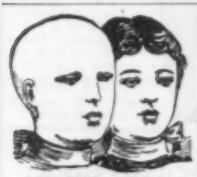
CONSUMPTION

Medicines do not cure consumption. Medicines cannot cure as good physicians know—hence it is so much dreaded as being incurable. The reason is that the medicine is taken into the stomach, while the disease is INSIDE THE LUNGS. To cure it the seat of the disease must be directly reached, the collected mucous (dead matter) loosened and removed, the germs killed and the irritated raw lungs and pulmonary tubes cleansed and healed up. To get this curative power direct to the weakened lungs—this cleansing, healing, life-giving power of Nature contained in certain atmospheric gases concentrated in some mountain and forest localities—doctors order their sinking patients (beyond hope from their medical skill) to the curative mountain air of certain Western States, there to simply breathe the peculiar cleansing, healing, vitalizing gases in the dry mountain air—there to prolong their lives and where many revive and recover their lost health. The purifying, invigorating atmospheric mountain gases cleanse the lungs and heal the wounds made by the germs, and fill the lungs with vitality.

Strange as it seems, our chemist by a peculiar accident discovered the chemical construction of these curative gases and has learned how to concentrate them in dry chemical form—thus greatly increasing their power and their effect. Draw these gases into the lungs and the dead matter is at once loosened and raised off, the germs are killed and the patient cured.

Our **"Condor Inhalation Cure"** cured many bad cases of consumption here at Phoenix, Ariz., last winter who could get no relief otherwise. Out of many hundreds of cases treated not one failure have we met yet. Besides we find the "Condor" treatment has wonderful effect in curing **Bronchitis, Catarrh, Colds, Chronic Coughs,** and such diseases of the pulmonary organs. The results with the "Condor" treatment are so remarkably successful that we will prove its value to you at our own expense, and will send to any one who needs it. Describe your case carefully and write at once for letters from those cured and a free box by return mail, postpaid.

Wilcox-Helmer-Gortner Co., 807 Bryson Block, LOS ANGELES, CAL.



MISS EMMA EMOND, of St. Sauveur, Quebec, Can., before and after using Foso Treatment.

Free Hair Grower.

A trial package of a new and wonderful remedy mailed free to convince people it actually grows hair, stops hair falling out, removes dandruff and quickly restores luxuriant growth to shining scalps, eyebrows and eyelashes. Send your name and address to the Altenheim Medical Dispensary, 2014 Foso Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, for a free trial package, enclosing a 2c. stamp to cover postage. Write to-day.

WOMEN and MEN suffer needlessly from **INGROWING TOE NAILS.** We **guarantee** that our silver appliance will give immediate relief and in a very short time will effect a **permanent cure** without pain, cutting or any inconvenience whatever. 10,000 sold. **25 cents,** stamps or silver.
COLONIAL MFG. CO., Dept. E, WARREN, OHIO

BE YOUR OWN CHIROPODIST. We have a handsome 20-page illustrated booklet on "How to have Easy, Healthy, Shapely Feet," which we will mail to any address for a 2c. stamp. Bunions **CAN** be cured. The booklet tells you how to do it in your own home without cutting and without the slightest inconvenience. It also tells about the prevention and removal of corns, ingrowing toe-nails and the treatment of all kinds of foot troubles. Agents.
FOOT REMEDY CO., 1304 S. Lawndale Avenue, Chicago.

Too Fat

Don't ruin your stomach with a lot of useless drugs. Our method is perfectly safe, natural and scientific. It strengthens the heart, allows one to breathe easily and takes off Double Chin, Big Stomach, Fat Hips, etc. Send your address and 4 cts. to the Hall Chemical Co., "Box K. A.," St. Louis, Mo., for Free trial Treatment. No starving. No sickness. It reduces weight from 5 to 15 lbs. a month, and is perfectly harmless.

Darken Your Gray Hair

DUBY'S OZARK HERBS restore gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, beauty and softness. Prevents the hair from falling out, promotes its growth, cures and prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. **IT WILL NOT STAIN THE SCALP,** is not sticky or dirty, contains no sugar of lead, nitrate silver, copperas, or poisons of any kind, but is composed of roots, herbs, barks and flowers. **PACKAGE MAKES ONE PINT.** It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. Full size package sent by mail, postpaid, for 25 cents.
OZARK HERB CO., Block 18, St. Louis, Mo.

Work for Yourself Not Others

Ambitious men and women, there is plenty money in the mail-order business, and it requires but little capital. Get started properly, conduct it right—it means independence and a large steady income. We teach this business completely. Send for free booklet.
Louis Guenther's Mail Order Bureau, 602 Schiller Bldg., Chicago

Don't Be Fat.

The Following Illustration Shows the Remarkable Effects of My Wonderful Obesity Food—What It Has Done for Others It Will Do For You.

No dieting, exercise or exertion is necessary. My natural, scientific Obesity Food does all the work. You will feel a hundred times better the first day you try this wonderful home food.

Send your name and address—no money—to-day to Prof. F. J. Kellogg, 449 Kellogg Bldg., Battle Creek, Mich., and receive the trial package in plain wrapper free by return mail.

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Fifty thousand have already done so and hundreds are doing so every day in all parts of the country with our help by simply introducing our fine line of Soaps, Perfumes, Toilet Preparations and Pure Food Specialties among their friends and neighbors. This is an actual fact which we shall be glad to prove to anyone at any time.

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Our handsome **Free** Book beautifully and fully illustrated, together with our specially prepared literature, explains everything fully and clearly. Simply your name and address in a letter or on a postal if handier, brings it to you by return mail. We can easily prove to you that our method is the easiest, best and most wonderful in liberality you ever heard of, and that by it you can add greatly to the comforts, conveniences and adornments of your home in a few hours of your spare time.

FREE In order to show you the superior quality of our goods and to convince you that there is no other firm that can offer you such a wonderful opportunity to **furnish your home free of all cost,** we will, for the next thirty days, send to any lady answering this advertisement, one of our toilet articles, full size, which sells everywhere for 25 cents. This is a straightforward business proposition, which must appeal to every thrifty housekeeper. There are no conditions attached to it. All you have to do is to write us and we will send you the 25c Toilet Article and our illustrated book without one cent of cost to you. Write today; now, before you forget it.

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COM-PLEX-NER **fades away the freckles and beautifies your complexion while you sleep.** Will not injure the most delicate skin. Send stamp. Special terms for limited time. **Mme. Bigwood, Face and Head Specialist, 726 Dudley Street, Boston, Mass.** Confidential. Plain Envelope.

Why don't YOU use a **SACHET TALCUM PUFF?**

It is **the perfect toilet requisite.** Delightful after bathing or shaving. The "Puff" itself is made of elderdown, **soft and fine,** through which the delicately scented pure air float talc percolates. This distributes the powder evenly and in just the right proportion, thus preventing the flying of loose powder over the dressing-table or cloth. The cover is made of chamois, beautifully hand-painted, and is, in addition to its **practical value as a Puff,** a most attractive souvenir. It's the wonder of the World's Fair, where thousands are being sold. Send **35c.** to-day for a Puff.

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Does the close confinement to uncongenial drudgery irritate and chafe you? Throw off the saddle. Get out of the unprofitable and uncongenial work where progress is nearly impossible.

There is no reason why you should not be the rider.

The I. C. S. system of mail instruction will put you in the saddle and help you to earn more.

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gives a thousand and one examples of how our training has enabled our students to advance from low positions to higher ones. The accounts of the rise of some of these students read like romance. This booklet will be sent free to all who fill in and mail to us **this coupon.**

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Please send me your booklet, "1001 Stories of Success," and explain how I can qualify for the position before which I have marked X

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In the Art Section of THE RED BOOK for September, you will find 18 recent picture studies of the stage celebrities of the day.

A limited number of these portraits not in general circulation. Some of the subjects and therefore highly treasured by collectors.

DO YOU FIND YOUR FAVORITE IN THIS LIST OF

MISS MAXINE ELLIOTT
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Name .....

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If we were in the picture business we could not afford to give away such a picture as this for 30 cents, however, in the picture business. We are in the magazine business, and we can afford to do it. We are in the magazine business, and we can afford to do it. Each number contains fifteen or more pictures of the most beautiful women in the land. Each number contains fifteen are beautifully illustrated by the best artists. Each issue contains fifteen Beautiful Women. The price of the magazine is 10 cents a copy, but we can afford to make this startling offer in order to introduce it into new homes and friends. Past results show us that we succeed in getting a large proportion of those who take advantage of this liberal offer. Simply select the picture you want, write your name and address and send it to us with 30 cents. The picture and a sample copy of THE RED BOOK, will be sent by return mail. Or, if you prefer, send us with $1.00 and we will send you the two photographs mentioned above and a year's subscription to THE RED BOOK.

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Big Prize Story Treat

Here is a positive Insurance Against the Blues that cannot be equalled in all the world.

We will deliver, charges paid in U. S., Canada or Mexico, 21 back numbers of *The Black Cat* containing 108 of the cleverest tales ever told, including many prize stories that won from $100 to $1,000 each, making over 900 pages—all for 56 cents. Send stamps if not convenient to procure money or express order.

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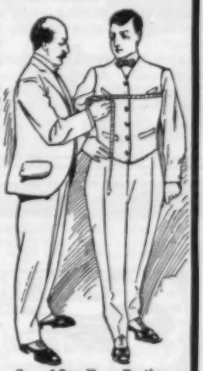

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A neat Percale Shirt .. 1.25
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Send No Money, but write at once for FREE SAMPLES and also our SPECIAL PREMIUM Offer. Address

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RUPTURE CURED while you work. You pay $4 when cured. No cure, no pay. ALEX. SPEIRS, Box 218, Westbrook, Maine.

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Sole Owners of Original Patents. 284 E. 5th St., Canton, O.

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This guarantees ease and comfort at home, at camp, on the yacht, or while traveling under any and all conditions. Absolutely impossible to cut the face. The evil results of the Public Barber Shop Razor done away with. It will comfortably take from the most tender face a strong, stiff, wiry beard.

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Full descriptive catalogue mailed on request (if you will mention this publication) gives general information and prices of different sets.

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KAMPFE BROS., 8-12 Reade St., N.Y. or all leading dealers in high-class cutlery. (Remember the word "STAR")

The Reliable Whitney Fountain Pen. Price $1.50. 14kt. gold, diamond point, patent adjustable feed.
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If not they will appear straight and trim if you wear our easy Pneumatic and Cushion-Rubber Forms. (Patents applied for throughout the world). Adjusted instantly; defy detection. Immediately adopted by well dressed men. Write for illustrated pamphlet mailed under plain letter seal.

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Williams' Shaving Sticks, Shaving Tablets, Toilet Waters, Talcum Powder, Jersey Cream Toilet Soap.

Write for booklet "How to Shave"

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Whiskey Certificates Good As Government Bonds

PROPERTY VALUE INCREASES WITH AGE. UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND INSURED AGAINST LOSS

Shawhan is the only high grade whiskey distilled West of the Mississippi, and has been made by the same house for over 120 years. Its sales extend into every State of the Union. The Shawhan is doing the largest mail-order business of any bonafide distillery in the Country.

There is no Surplus Shawhan Whiskey in Existence

Owners of Shawhan whiskey in bond have always realized 20 per cent per annum on their investment. Until Dec. 1st next, a limited amount of the 1904 Shawhan whiskey is offered for sale in the form of warehouse certificates. On Sept. 1st, one summer, equal to a year's age was added to this whiskey, and the price advanced 20 per cent. Shawhan Distillery rules are that the price on their bonded whiskies is advanced March 1st and Sept. 1st of each year. It is an investment easily handled and on which your money can always be realized. **Send $3.20 for Sample Gallon** Shawhan Rye or Bourbon, express prepaid. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. For full particulars, write The Shawhan Distillery Co., 606 Baird Building, Kansas City, Mo.

REGISTERED DISTILLERY NO. 8

CONTEST CLOSES OCTOBER 15th.

We will pay $85,500.00 in prizes to those who can estimate nearest to the total paid attendance at the Great St. Louis World's Fair. This Fair opened April 30th, 1904, and will close December 1st, 1904. The paid attendance on opening day was 125,754 people; during May, the paid attendance was 542,028; during June, 1,382,863; during July, 1,514,758. Can you estimate the number of people who will pay admission during the entire Fair? You have just as much chance as any one else. Try it.

$85,500.00 IN GOLD

TO THOSE WHO COME NEAREST.

FIRST PRIZE, $25,000.00. SECOND PRIZE, $10,000.00
THIRD PRIZE, $5,000.00

Our Prizes are the largest ever offered in any Contest, and are divided as follows:

To the nearest correct estimate	$25,000.00
To the second nearest correct estimate	10,000.00
To the third nearest correct estimate	5,000.00
To the fourth nearest correct estimate	2,500.00
To the fifth nearest correct estimate	1,500.00
To the sixth nearest correct estimate	1,000.00
To the next 10 nearest correct estimates, $200 each	2,000.00
To the next 20 nearest correct estimates, $100 each	2,000.00
To the next 50 nearest correct estimates, $50 each	2,500.00
To the next 100 nearest correct estimates, $25 each	2,500.00
To the next 200 nearest correct estimates, $10 each	2,000.00
To the next 500 nearest correct estimates, $5 each	2,500.00
To the next 1,000 nearest correst estimates, $1 each	1,000.00
Supplementary prizes	26,000.00
Grand Total	**$85,500.00**

SEND IN YOUR ESTIMATES AT ONCE. Not an estimate will be considered that is received in our office after **October 15th, 1904.**

For each estimate we send you a separate engraved and numbered certificate with your estimate thereon. The corresponding coupons of these certificates are deposited at the time your estimates are made, and can be handled only by the Committee on Awards after the contest closes.

1 Certificate will cost you	$ .25
5 Certificates " " "	1.00
12 " " " "	2.00
20 " " " "	3.00
40 " " " "	5.00
100 " " " "	12.50
1000 " " " "	125.00

Each certificate entitles you to an estimate. You can estimate as often as you wish.
SEND IN YOUR ESTIMATES WITH YOUR REMITTANCES. As soon as received we will immediately make out your certificates and send them to you to be retained by you until the Fair is over and the Committee on Awards declares the successful contestants.

Remember you are to estimate the number of people who will pay admission into the grounds during the entire Fair. This does not include any free passes whatever. In order to help you to estimate, we will state that the total paid attendance at the Chicago World's Fair was 21,480,141; at the Pan-American Exposition 5,306,859; and at the Omaha Exposition 1,778,250.

MONEY NOW DEPOSITED.

We cannot touch this prize money. It is held by the Missouri Trust Co., for no other purpose than to pay these prizes as soon as the Committee on Awards declares the successful contestants. This committee has no interest whatever in the contest, and is made up of prominent business men who have agreed to award the prizes, and your estimates are turned over to this committee before the Fair closes, insuring absolute fairness to every one interested.

MISSOURI TRUST COMPANY,
CAPITAL $2,000,000. St. Louis, Mo., May 20, 1903.

This certifies that The World's Fair Contest Company, incorporated, has this day deposited with this company **$75,000.00 in gold,** for the payment of the awards in its contest on the total paid attendance at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904, and that said deposit is held in trust by this company to be paid by it to such successful contestants as the committee on awards may direct.

Jos. L. Stanley
TREASURER
Missouri Trust Co. of St. Louis.

OCTOBER 15th positively the LAST DAY. Not a penny will be accepted or an estimate counted after that date.

ONLY A FEW DAYS REMAIN. Don't subject yourself to a life-long regret by failing to enter this remarkable contest. Only a small amount invested in our estimating certificates may mean that an independent fortune is yours. WRITE TO-DAY. Remit by express order, postal note or registered letter. Don't send personal checks.

THE WORLD'S FAIR CONTEST CO., 6801 DELMAR AVE., ST. LOUIS, MO.

October 15th, LAST DAY. Don't forget that you must enter the contest before that date or not at all.

I am John Mackintosh the Toffee King

MACKINTOSH'S TOFFEE

Is a Pure and Delicious

OLD ENGLISH CANDY

And I want to say to the readers of THE BLACK CAT that it's just the candy for the whole family, and the children in particular. There is nothing "just as good," or "just like it." Your dealer can supply you. If not, write me, and send me his name, and I will talk with him.

Trial package sent for 10c. in stamps; or ½-lb. Family Tin sent for $1.60, and I pay the express charges.

JOHN MACKINTOSH

Dept. 24 **78 Hudson St., New York**

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LUCKY CURVE

LOVERS of a good pen prefer the Parker, because it is the **Pen of Pleasure.**

The "**Lucky Curve**" keeps the pen clean, and prevents soiling the fingers.

Let us send you our 20-page catalogue and "The Reason Why," and the name of the dealer at whose store you can see the "Lucky Curve."

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NOTE. Six-inch Aluminum Rule and Paper Cutter on receipt of stamp to any **INTENDING** Parker Pen buyer.

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$89.00
115.00
138.00
and 165.00

For the most liberal piano offer ever heard of write for our **Free Piano Catalogue**, and you will receive by return mail, free, postpaid, the **handsomest, most interesting and most complete Special Piano Catalogue ever published.** We will send you a facsimile of our celebrated 25-year guarantee, our one year's free trial plan will be fully explained, how we furnish pianos on trial without one cent of money being sent to us will be made very clear; you will receive facsimile letters from the largest Chicago banks endorsing our proposition and we will explain just what the freight will be to your town. In the special catalogue we show large, handsome, halftone illustrations and complete descriptions of all the different parts, the manner of construction (interior and sectional views), also color tone sample plates of the different woods, including French buried walnut, English quarter sawed oak, San Domingo figured mahogany, etc. Each piano is shown in very large halftone, full plate illustrations, every detail is fully and accurately described. **Why the highest grade Beckwith Piano made, the Acme Cabinet Grand Concert Piano at $165.00,** is in every essential point **the equal of any piano made, regardless of price, is made very clear. Write for our Free Piano Catalogue** and get all this free by return mail, postpaid; our latest and most astonishing offer, the greatest piano proposition ever heard of. If you have **any use for a piano at any price,** don't fail to write for **our FREE PIANO CATALOGUE AND OFFERS.** Address,

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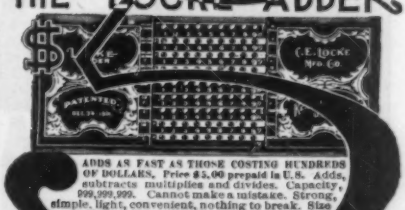
THE LOCKE ADDER



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Increase Height, Arch the Instep, Make Better Fitting Shoes, Remove Jar in Walking. Indorsed by physicians. Simply placed in the heel, felt down. Don't require larger shoes. ½ in., 25c.; ¾ in., 35c.; 1 in., 50c. per pair. At shoe and dep't stores. **READ** Send name, size shoe, height desired, and 2c. stamp for pair on ten days' trial.

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One-half Carat
Fine Perfect Stones
$65.00

TERMS:
$10.00 down
$6.00 per month

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WE guarantee to save you 50 per cent. of ordinary retail cigar prices because we have cut loose from the jobbers, who have taken the product of our factory for years, and go direct to YOU with the same time-tested brands of cigars, selling them by the box. CHARGES PAID, at precisely factory wholesale prices; putting the profits of Jobber, Salesmen, and Retailer—THREE PROFITS—IN YOUR POCKET.

Our line is so very complete—cigars of all prices—to suit all tastes—that we absolutely guarantee to please you, besides SAVING ONE-HALF OF YOUR SMOKING EXPENSES, if not—if you are not in every way entirely satisfied—we give you

YOUR MONEY BACK

cheerfully and willingly. Every cigar we make costing you over $3 per hundred is constructed of clear, pure imported Havana tobacco, and all cigars are made under the best approved sanitary conditions. Send us a trial order for any of the following under our guarantee.

Boxes of		12	25	50
Balmetto	4½ in. **Puritanos**	**$.90**	**$1.65**	**$3.25**
El Provost	4½ in. **Perfectos**	**.85**	**1.50**	**3.00**
La Medalia	4½ in **Conchas**	**.70**	**1.25**	**2.50**

or for 75c. we will send you an assortment of 12 cigars, each separately wrapped and described, showing four varieties of 10c. and two for a quarter values; or for 50c. an equal showing of High-grade 5c. and 10c. values. Send for our catalogue, "*Rolled Reveries*," which explains everything. *All transportation charges prepaid.*

VIENNA, LA., "The El Provost are as good as any ten-cent cigars I ever smoked." J. A. GREENER, JR.

JOHN B. ROGERS & COMPANY, "The Pioneers,"
757 Jarvis Street, Binghamton, N. Y.

Laughter Lengthens Life

The Prize Story Treat offered on page xxx of this issue of THE BLACK CAT is decidedly Good Medicine. These 900 pages of copyrighted cleverness turn sadness into sunshine and dreary hours into delightful dreams. A set for yourself, one for your sweetheart, and another for some absent friend, forms a gift the delightful memory of which will never fade. Order at once for the supply is limited.

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For the purpose of advertising our business we shall **GIVE AWAY** in the next few weeks **thousands of rare and beautiful song birds,** and if you wish to receive a fine singing bird in a cage, **FREE, write us to-day.** No home is complete without a beautiful singing bird in an attractive cage, and if you are prompt you can secure one of these birds. We distribute the birds to advertise our business. **YOU HAVE NOTHING WHATEVER TO PAY FOR THE BIRD AND CAGE.** Be sure to send name of your nearest express office and express company to ship by. Address

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Linene
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SUSPENDERS

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That spells **"solid comfort"** to the wearer. Every movement of the body is taken up by the reciprocating back-action of **PRESIDENT Suspenders**

No tired shoulders—no strain **anywhere**—no leather to soil the shirt—buckles cannot rust. Satisfaction, a new pair or your money back.

At dealers or by mail. Price 50c and $1.00.

The C. A. EDGARTON MFG. CO.
Box 302 Shirley, Mass.

YES

There are other railroads between the east and the west.

BUT

it is always well to secure the best you can for the money.

THEREFORE

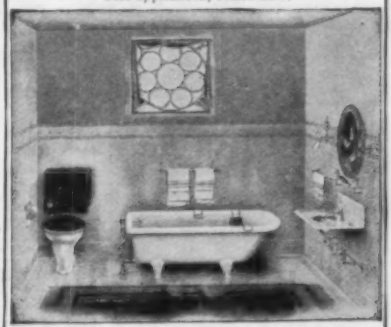
You should bear in mind this remark of an experienced traveler:

"For the excellence of its tracks, the speed of its trains, the safety and comfort of its patrons, the loveliness and variety of its scenery, the number and importance of its cities, and the uniformly correct character of its service, the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad is not surpassed by any similar institution on either side of the Atlantic."

Send to George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York, a 2-cent stamp for a 52-page illustrated Catalog of the "Four-Track Series."

Bath Room Combination

Latest designs, finest nickel trimmings, best appliances, brand new.



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LAVATORY—Genuine "Italian" marble countersunk slab and back—patent overflow porcelain bowl.

CLOSET—Syphon wash down vitreous porcelain bowl—perfect working—best wood work.

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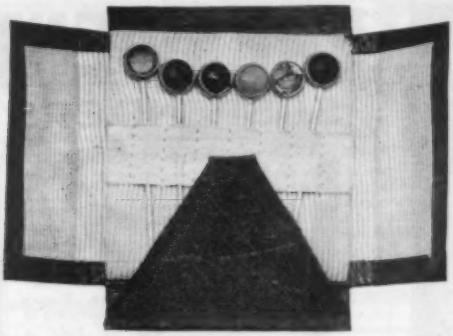

Sterling Silver Stick Pins

Six kinds, assorted; beautiful imitations of the following Gems:—

Amethyst, Emerald, Ruby, Sapphire, Topaz and Turquoise

Set of 6 in Leather Case, (see illustration) **75 Cents**

Separate Pins 10 Cents each; $1.00 per dozen.

(Assorted unless otherwise ordered.)

Send for Catalogue

Address Department **C,**

G. WILLIS WHIPPLE & CO.

Gold and Silver Smiths,

184 ESSEX ST., SALEM, MASS.

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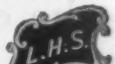

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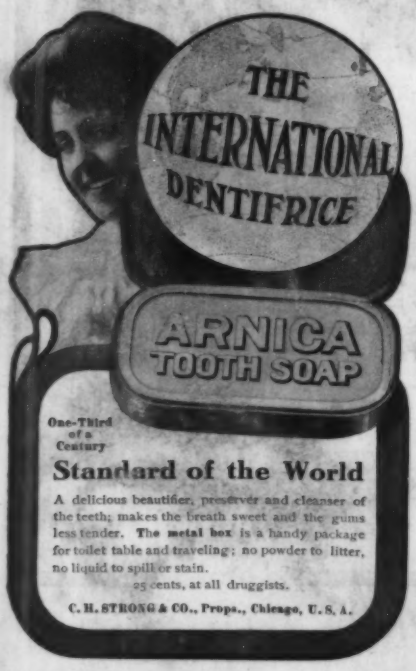
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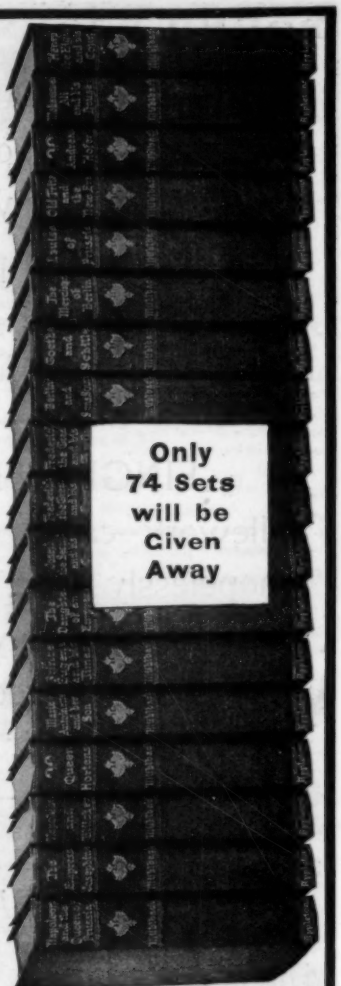

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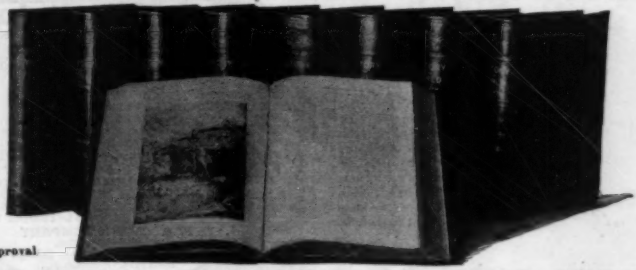

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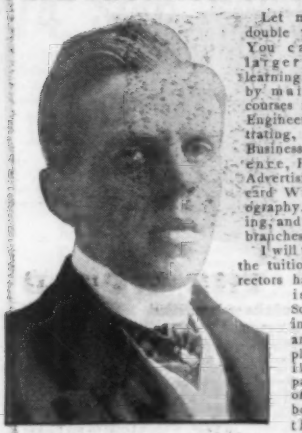

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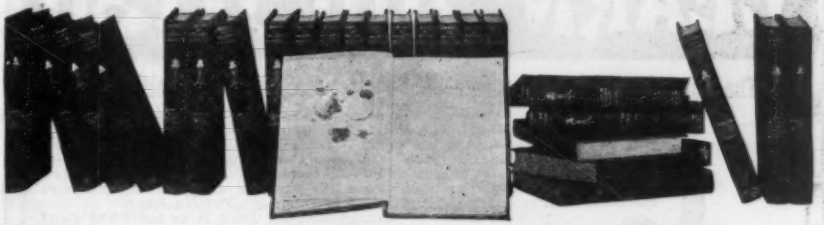

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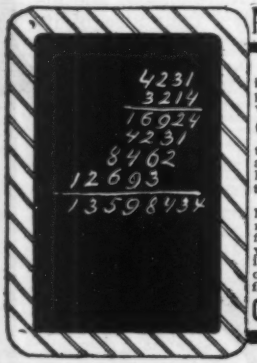

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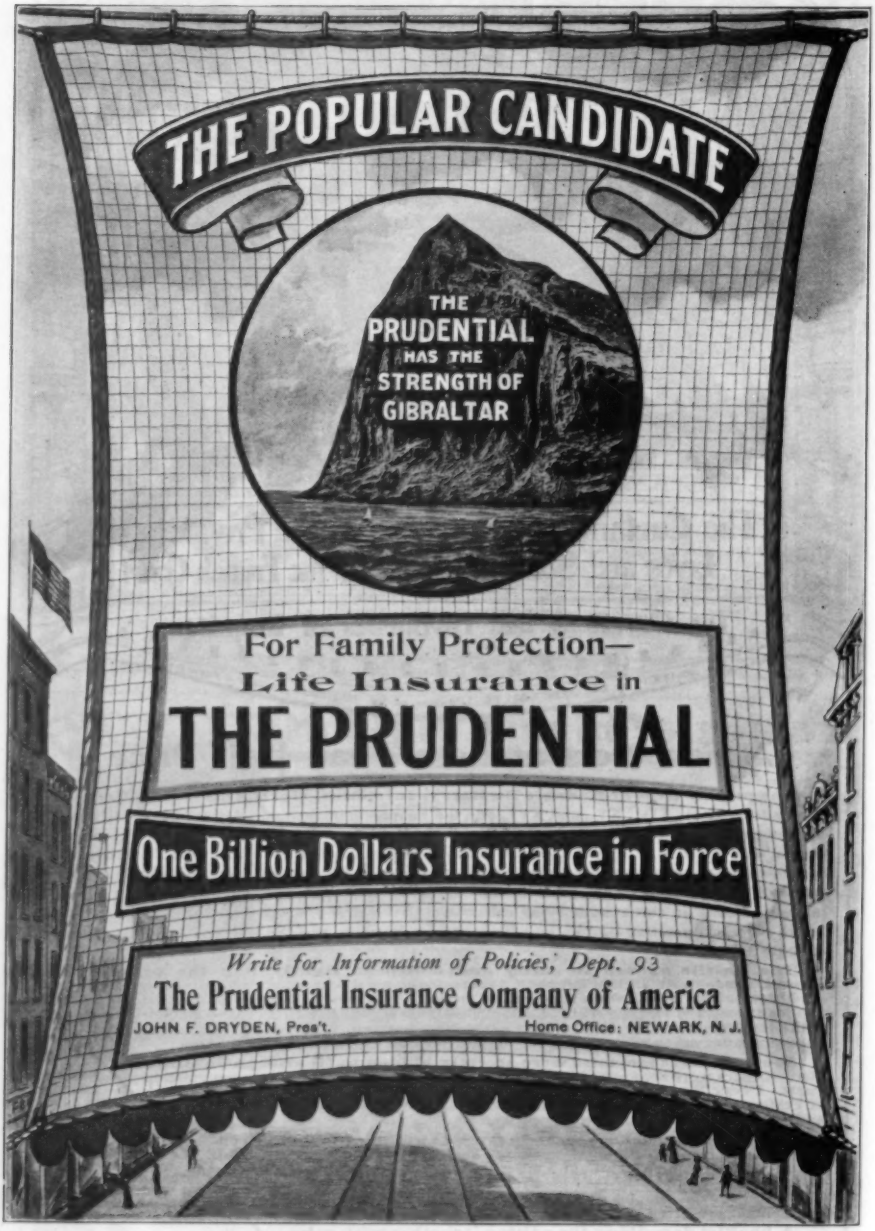
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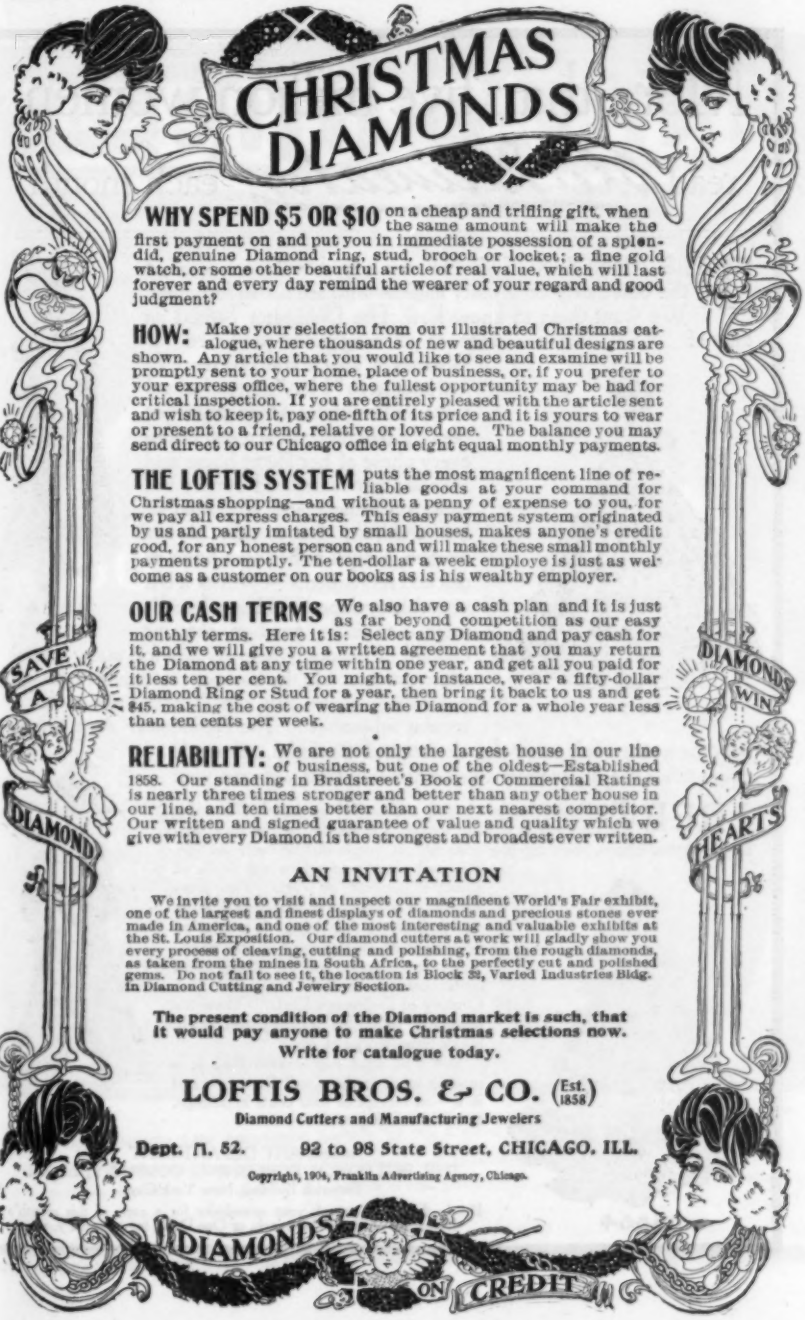

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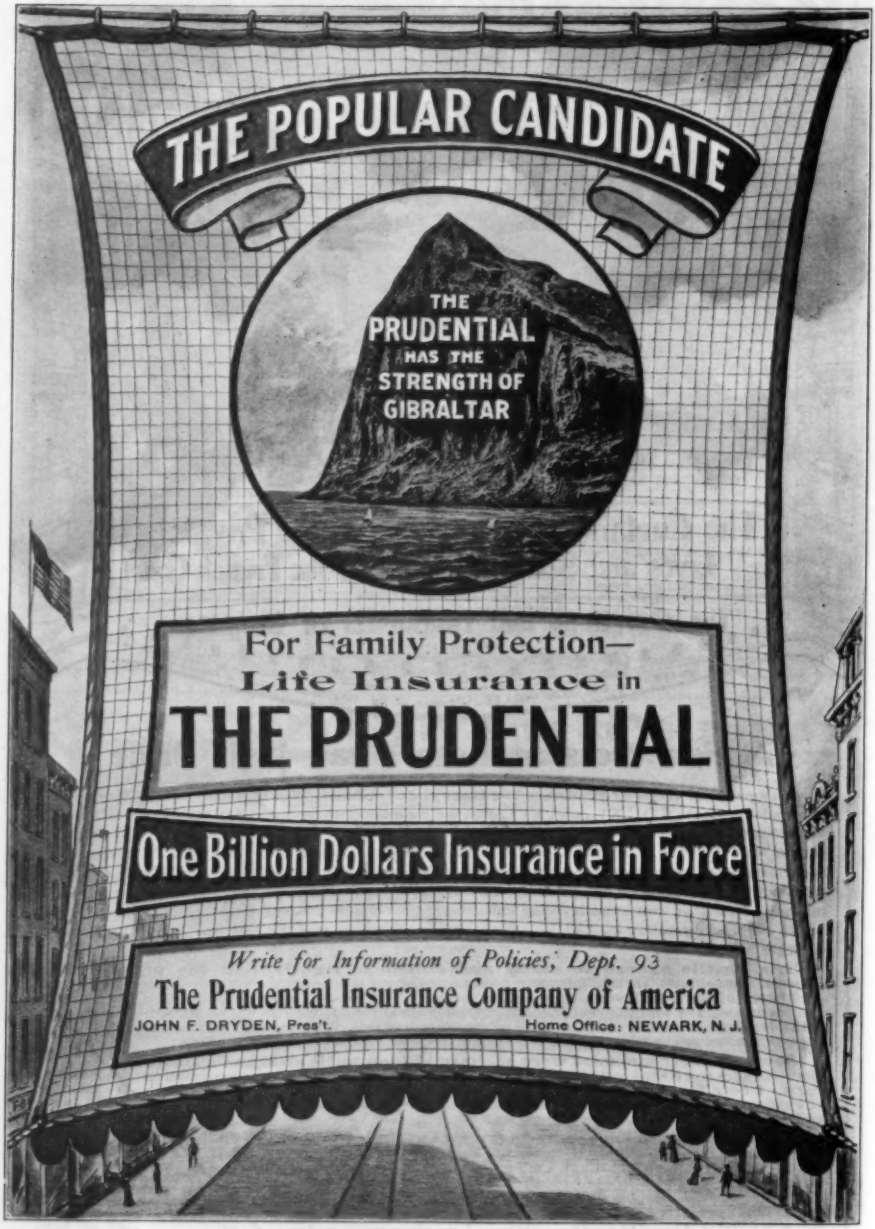
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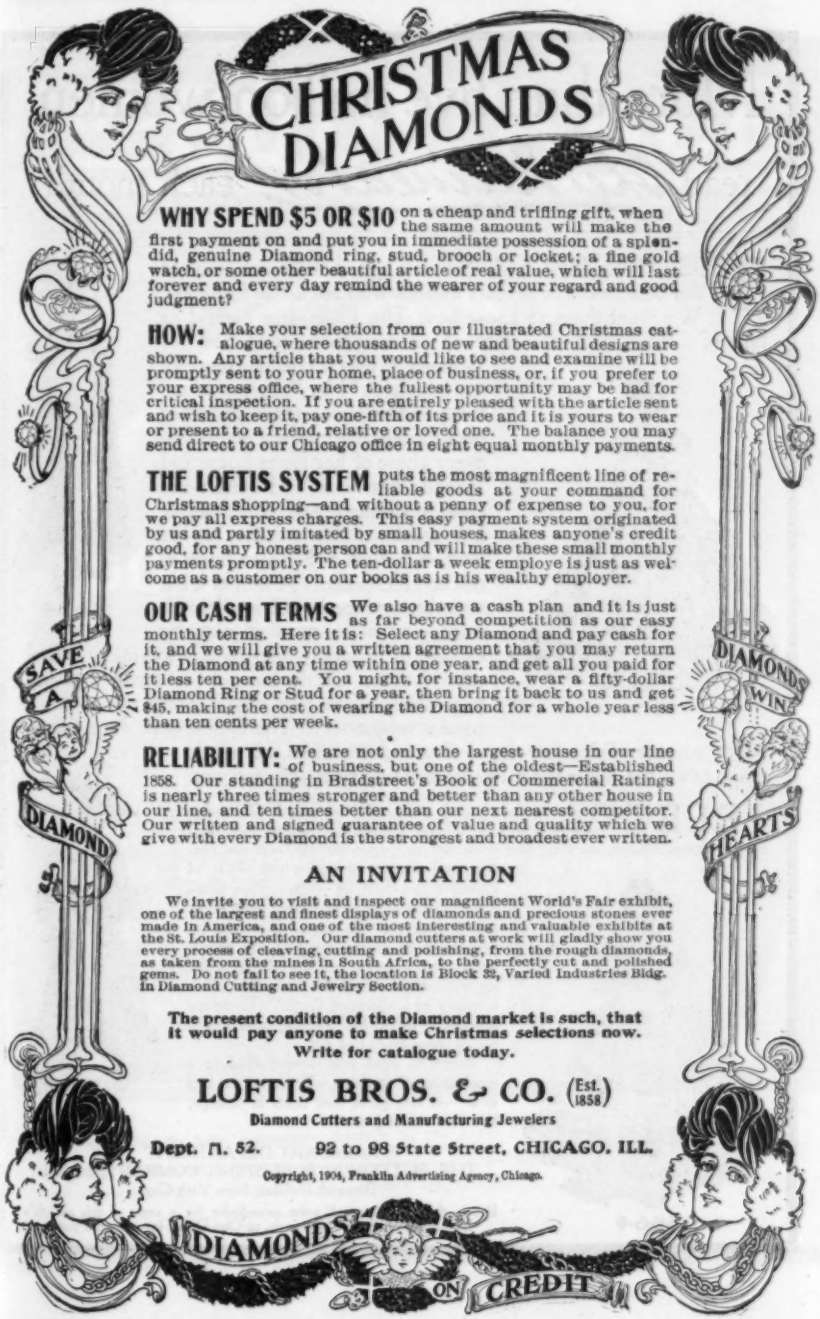

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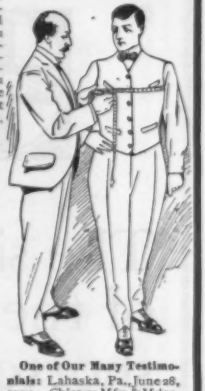

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For years a great many cases of throat and lung troubles were quickly relieved and radically cured by inhaling a strange medicated gas—a secret discovery—but to *prove its merits*, and give the remedy the severest test possible for it to have we took it to Phœnix, Arizona, the greatest resort for "lungers" in America, and there we really surprised ourselves and astonished the physicians, and we can assure you, delighted the suffering patients by curing every consumptive case we treated, many of whom could get no relief whatever otherwise. Phœnix newspapers published columns about our marvelous remedy and its astonishing cures. Prominent physicians there now prescribe this remedy—the **Condor Inhalation Cure**—in their regular practice and are still producing wonderful cures. Since coming to Los Angeles we are daily treating numbers of sufferers and here the cures are as marvelous as they were at Phœnix.

We now prepare this remedy so that any one can take it at home, and now that we KNOW its grand merits we want everyone who needs it to try it in their own cases, at our expense, and we offer a complete treatment free to all. Medicines, tablets, pills, etc., cannot cure consumption as the germs which cause it are seated deep down **inside the Lungs**, and only by inhaling—breathing in—a vapor remedy that will go directly to the spot where the germs are at work and destroy them, can the disease be arrested and the affected lungs and air passages cured. Our **CONDOR INHALATION CURE**, breathing in the vapor from a burning wafer (see cut) goes direct to the seat of the disease, quickly kills the germs, loosens and throws off the adhering mucous (dead matter) and heals up the sore spots—restoring health. It will cost you nothing for a trial and we also give you free diagnosis and advice from our physician, so send for them at once—today. Describe your case fully and we will send diagnosis and proper treatment, postpaid, by return mail. Address,

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It Makes Weak Eyes Strong and Gives Instant Relief to the Burning Pain or Soreness of Strained Eyes or Eyes Hurt by Night Work—Send Your Name and Address To-day for Free Package.

The cures being made by this magic lotion every day are truly remarkable. C. F. Gorman of Austin, Minn., says he was blind for years with cataract. He doctored with one specialist 22 months without results. Now he tells of his marvelous cure by Schlegel's Magic Eye Lotion after all others failed. Mrs. B. A. Hubbard, Plum Point, Tenn., tells of her cure in a month with this lotion after all doctors and remedies had failed for five years to cure her. To-day she can see perfectly out of both eyes. Rev. M. H. Blackman, the well-known pastor of Ovid, Pa., was cured of a case of granulated eyelids that had resisted for years all attempts of doctors to cure. Mr. George W. Byers, Owensboro, Ky., was cured of ulcers and wild hairs with this lotion after all other remedies had failed. Dora Casey, Chicago, was cured of granulated lids for which doctors treated her for five months steady, but failed to cure. Dr. J. W. Angell of Iowa, one of the oldest and best known doctors in the west, suffered with granulated lids for seven years. He tried every remedy, but failed to cure until he used Prof. Schlegel's eye lotion and one bottle gave him more relief than all the remedies he ever tried. G. Klopfer, the well-known florist of Peoria, Ill., suffered for years with weak, watery and sore eyes and spent hundreds of dollars with doctors. One bottle of Prof. Schlegel's Magic Eye Lotion cured him. It stops pain instantly. It contains no cocaine nor other harmful drugs and it cures sore or weak eyes to stay cured. The Professor is very glad to send a free package of his remedy to anyone who suffers with their eyes. Write to-day to Prof. H. T. Schlegel, 657 Mackinaw Bldg., Chicago, Ill., and be cured.

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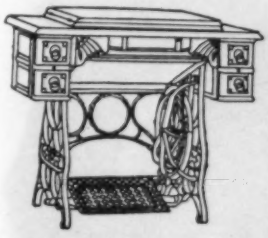

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Increase Height, Arch the Instep, Make Better Fitting Shoes, Remove Jar in Walking. Indorsed by physicians. Simply placed in the heel, felt down. Don't require larger shoes. ¼ in., 25c.; ⅜ in., 35c.; 1 in., 50c. per pair. At shoe stores. **READ** Send name, size shoe, height desired, and 2c. stamp for pair on ten days' trial.

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Makes and burns its own gas. No wick, no odor, no smoke. Absolutely safe. For indoor and outdoor use.

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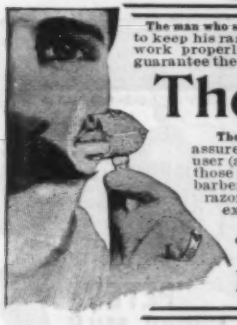

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The first and only safety razor of mechanical perfection and perfect finish, assures ease, quickness, and a clean shave, combined with perfect safety to the user (absolutely impossible to cut or irritate the face) and especially adapted to those having a stiff, thick, wiry beard. Its use does away with the evils of the barber shop. Money and time saved. Ready for use at any time or place. This razor has stood the test of over 5,000,000 users for over 25 years—this proves its excellence.

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fades away the freckles and beautifies your complexion while you sleep. Will not injure the most delicate skin. Send stamp. Special terms for limited time. **Mme. Bigwood, Face and Head Specialist, 726 Dudley Street, Boston, Mass.** Confidential. Plain Envelope.

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Everyone who predicts before Dec. 15th which ten books we shall sell before midnight of Jan. 31st in larger numbers than any of the other ten—in other words, who name the ten most popular ones—will receive **$150 in cash. It is not necessary to name the ten in the order in which they sell, simply name the ten that sell more than any of the other ten.**

Everyone who predicts correctly after Dec. 15th and before Jan. 1st, will receive $100.

The date that governs the amount of these prizes will be the date you **mail** your predictions, as shown by the postmark on the envelope.

We believe we shall secure more friends and more publicity for the Library in this way than by spending one hundred thousand dollars in magazine and newspaper advertising.

We plan to add to this Library from time to time, and expect to do a larger annual business with it than has ever been done with any one set of books. So much to explain why we can afford to pay these large prizes, although we do not hope to make any profit on the present sale

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1 Tale of Two Cities	6 Jane Eyre	11 Vanity Fair	16 Romola
2 Darwin's Descent of Man	7 John Halifax	12 Tom Brown's School Days	17 Irving's Sketch Book
3 First Violin	8 Lorna Doone	13 Last of the Mohicans	18 Emerson's Essays
4 Hypatia	9 Darwin's Origin of Species	14 Prince of the House of David	19 Thelma
5 Ivanhoe	10 Uncle Tom's Cabin	15 Robinson Crusoe	20 Last Days of Pompeii

These twenty volumes represent a wide range of taste, but each one is unquestionably among the leaders of its class. Any one who is familiar with these twenty books will never lack a subject of conversation in any company. This prize offer will secure many new readers for these standard works, which should be in every home where the English language is read and spoken.

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Dr. Edward Everett Hale writes:

"I am much interested in your plan. The only wonder is that it has not been carried out before. Your list seems to me a very good one, and while, of course, I think I could improve it perhaps? I am sure that if you can circulate these books as you propose, it will be a great advantage to us all."

Truly yours, EDWARD E. HALE.

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The entire reputation of our concern, with more than a million dollars capital and eleven years of successful book publishing, is pledged to the fair and square awarding and payment of these prizes. No one in any way connected with our establishment or with The Washington Post, will be allowed to compete. Each prediction will be numbered, dated and registered in a manner that will prevent mistake or fraud. The correctness of the awarding of the prizes will be certified to by Gunn, Richards & Co., the well-known firm of expert accountants and business engineers, of 43 Wall Street, New York. And a statement of the result will be published in the leading newspapers. For

(*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*)

$150 to Everyone Who Names the Ten Most Popular Books

(SEE PRECEDING PAGE)

convenience of the Judge of the contest, and to prevent any possible confusion with the rest of our business, this contest will be conducted entirely from Washington, D. C. **Address all inquiries and predictions to World's Famous Book Contest, care The Washington Post, Washington, D. C.**

Use Your Own Brains and Consult Your Friends

Look over the list carefully and make up your mind which ten volumes you would choose for yourself if you could have ten of the twenty, and only ten. If you have average taste in books you won't be far out of the way in naming the ten.

Many learned and bookish people, among them Sir John Lubbock, have published lists of what they considered the world's best hundred books, and some of the magazines have published articles regarding the world's best books. Look up and see how the twenty mentioned here are rated in such lists.

Consult your local book dealer and find out which ten he thinks will sell the best—which he has sold the most of.

Consult the Librarian of any library to which you have access.

Ask public and high school teachers and professors which ten are the best.

Then make your prediction. The more intelligence you put into making your predictions, the greater your prospect of success.

But do this quickly—at once—you must determine quickly to secure one of the larger prizes.

Who May Predict. Limit as to Time and Number

The price of each volume is $1.00. Each book is good, honest value for the dollar. For each volume you buy you are entitled to make one prediction—that is, name the ten volumes which you think will prove most popular—will sell better than the other ten. You may buy any number of volumes up to twenty and make as many different predictions as you buy books. But no person will be allowed to make more than twenty predictions.

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Any time within one week after you receive your books (one or more) you may return any or all of them and we will return your money—$1 for each book delivered to us in as good condition as you received it. We wouldn't make this offer if the books were not *all right* would we? This return privilege applies to books bought by mail before Jan. 15th. Books ordered after Jan. 15th will not be returnable, because any withdrawals after that would complicate awarding the prizes.

Those Who Answer Before Dec. 15 Win Most, Skill Being Equal

Act promptly, because the larger prizes go to those who send in the correct list early; but send in your list, even if you do not learn of this offer until the last days of December. Even the smallest prize ($100) is worth having for nothing—and it really costs you nothing, because for every dollar you invest you receive full value in books.

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We believe we shall secure more publicity for the Library in this way than by spending one hundred thousand dollars in advertising. We expect to do a larger business with these books than has ever been done with any one set of books.

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Siegel, Cooper & Co., - - - Chicago.
Jordan, Marsh & Co., - - - Boston.

These three stores will sell these books during the contest. Your right to predict will be the same whether you buy by mail from Washington, or at any of these stores. At the stores you can examine the books before buying. These store sales will be counted, of course, in the totals.

Our Responsibility

If you wish to make sure of our financial responsibility and business reputation, consult Dun or Bradstreet, or ask some business acquaintance to "look up" Merrill & Baker, Publishers, New York City. You may be sure this magazine would not publish this advertisement, nor would such firms as

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

$150 to Everyone Who Names the Ten Most Popular Books

(SEE PRECEDING PAGE)

Simpson Crawford Co., New York, Siegel, Cooper & Co., Chicago, and Jordan, Marsh & Co., Boston, cooperate in selling these books, unless they were confident that we would do exactly as we promise.

Address all mail regarding the contest to: World's Famous Books Contest, care The Washington Post, Washington, D. C.

MERRILL & BAKER, Publishers, New York City

$150 May Be Yours by Following These Simple Directions

The Sale closes January 31, 1905. Predictions mailed before Dec. 15, if correct, win $150, if mailed before Jan. 1, the prize is $100. For convenience and accuracy, in making the award, each prediction must be made by number (not by title), and on a *printed* blank. The designating number of each volume is printed just before its title in the above list. Below is a blank order form and prediction blank. Any number of predictions up to 20 may be made on one blank. Each column up and down the page is one prediction—you must make an X across each number you wish to leave out. Leave exactly ten numbers not crossed with an X. These ten NOT crossed represent your prediction. If you order more than one volume, make as many predictions as you buy volumes by using the same number of columns.

If you wish to buy one or more of the books now and not predict till later, use the order form only. A voucher and prediction blank will be sent you with whatever books you order. Then you can predict whenever you make up your mind—but remember the first to predict correctly receive the larger prizes.

Further particulars about the books or the prize plan sent on request

ORDER BLANK

Send for blank if you prefer not to cut this out.

WORLD'S FAMOUS BOOKS CONTEST, care THE WASHINGTON POST, Washington, D. C.

Enclosed please find.....dollars. Send me the.....volumes NOT crossed off, as follows:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Cross out with an X *all volumes not ordered. The list on the first page of this advertisement shows what books each number stands for.*

Name.....*City or Town*.....

Bl. Cat—Dec.

Street and Number.....*State*.....

Make one prediction for each volume you buy—use one column for each prediction, beginning with the left-hand column. Cross out with an X *all but ten numbers in as many columns as you order volumes. The ten numbers not crossed in each column are the ten you select as the most popular. The list on the first page of this advertisement shows what book each number stands for.*

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
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18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20

Use as many columns as you make predictions.

The 10 numbers *not* crossed out in as many columns as I buy books represent my predictions of the 10 most popular books during the sale ending January 31st, 1905.

Name.....*City or Town*.....

Street and Number.....*State*.....

Bl. Cat Dec. *Send for blank if you prefer not to cut this out.*

If you prefer to buy books now and predict later fill in the order form only. See directions above.

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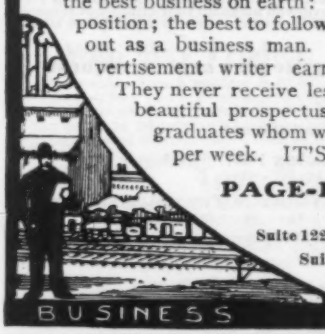

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To readers of THE BLACK CAT.

To demonstrate the high standard of our instruction in drawing we will send a specimen copy of one of our instruction papers on "Perspective Drawing" prepared especially for home study by Prof. W. H. Lawrence, Mass. Inst. of Tech. This work takes up the subjects of Station Point; Picture Plane; Ground Line; Line of Measures; Vanishing Points; Problems Involving Perspective of Points, Lines and Planes. Revolved Plan; Lines of Measure; Perspective Plan; Curves; Apparent Distortion; Choice of Position of Station Point. It is a neatly paper-bound booklet of 72 pages 9½ x 7 inches, and contains, in addition, nine folded plates in two colors, and many other illustrations. Send fifteen 2-cent stamps for postage and binding and the names of two persons whom you think would be interested in Mechanical Drawing. Write names and addresses plainly.

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at Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, Ill.

Cut this out and send with your order.

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WE HAVE ANYTHING THAT'S IN PRINT
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at your home. We will give, free, for advertising purposes, course of **48** music lessons for beginners oradvanced pupils on **Piano, Organ, Banjo, Guitar, Cornet, Violin, or Mandolin,** (your expense will only be the cost of postage and the music you use, which is small). We teach by mail only and guarantee success. Hundreds write: "Wish I had known of your school before." For booklet, testimonials and **FREE** tuition contract, address **U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Box 449, 19 Union Square, New York, N. Y.**

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B. C
Dec.

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We Depend on Our Goods for sales, and all we ask is an opportunity to submit them to anyone interested in **Christmas Diamonds, Watches** or **Jewelry.**

You are welcome to credit whether you are a modest salaried employe or a wealthy employer. The **Loftis System** makes any honest person's credit good by adjusting terms to meet their earnings, income or convenience. Don't think that you must give something cheap and trashy because you can spare but a few dollars at present. With five or ten dollars for a first payment you can give a beautiful Diamond which will last forever and every day remind the wearer of your regard and good judgment. We will arrange the payments so that you will hardly miss them from your monthly income.

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Competition. Our goods, prices, terms and methods have just finished a seven month's competition with the entire world at the St. Louis Universal Exposition, and we have been awarded the **Gold Medal.** No stronger endorsement of the Loftis System could be given; in no other way could our leading position in the Diamond and Jewelry trade be so strongly emphasized.

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CHICAGO, ILL., U. S. A.

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DIAMONDS WIN HEARTS

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and other medals were awarded the Butterick Fashion Exhibit at the St. Louis World's Fair

The Christmas Delineator

is the best number we have ever issued—we think—and more than ever proves The Delineator to be "the best of all the magazines published for Woman." The Love Songs from the Wagner Operas have, for the first time, been worthily put into English. Richard Le Gallienne has translated them with a charm that will make them endeared forever. The accompanying decorations in color, by J. C. Leyendecker, are superb, and well worthy of this master feature.

Other contributors to this number are: Robert Grant, F. Hopkinson Smith, Alice Brown, Elmore Elliott Peake, Mary Stewart Cutting, L. Frank Baum, the author of "The Wizard of Oz," etc., Julia Magruder, Albert Bigelow Paine, Grace MacGowan Cooke, Gustav Kobbé, Lillie Hamilton French, Dr. Grace Peckham Murray, Florence Earle Coates, Aloysius Coll, Carolyn Wells, Jennie Pendleton Ewing. This issue contains superb illustrations in color and in black and white, by J. C. Leyendecker, Martin Justice, L. D'Emo, Paul J. Meylan, S. Werner, Christine S. Bredin, Herbert Paus, Harry Stacey Benton, F. Richardson, R. Emmett Owen and Harry A. Linnell.

FASHION PLATES IN COLORS

The midwinter fashions are shown in profusion in full color and in black and white. Better this month than ever—as we promised they would be. Getting nearer to perfection with each issue—the styles shown this month are simply temptations—the best way to overcome them is to yield to them.

Get your copy now

The Delineator may be secured of your newsdealer, or any Butterick agent, or of the publishers at 15c. a copy, $1 a year.
THE BUTTERICK PUBLISHING COMPANY, Ltd., Butterick Building, New York City.

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EQUITABLE

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BY

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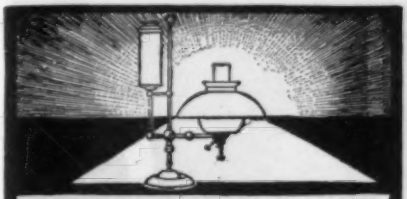
HARPER & BROTHERS, Publishers, New York



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It removes dandruff, cleanses and gives tone and vigor to the scalp, stops the hair from falling out, and makes it soft and glossy.

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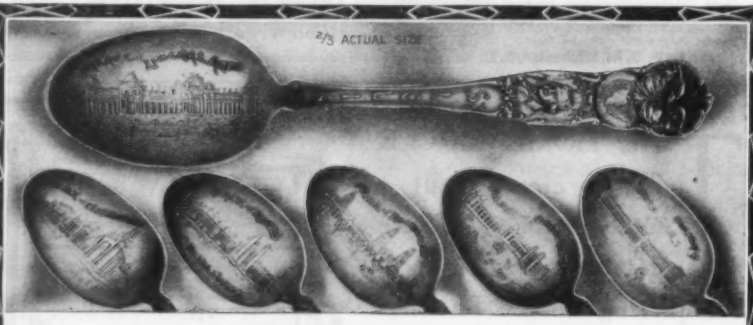
THE CARTILAGE COMPANY, 34P Unity Building, Rochester, N. Y.



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OLD ENGLISH CANDY

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Dept. 24 78 Hudson St., New York

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Mme. Maintenon

Some of these memoirs were secretly hidden until after their authors died, others were confiscated by the police and burned by the common hangman in Paris. Under the editorship of Dr. Leon Vallee, librarian at the National Library of France, the twenty volumes of these memoirs have been gathered, translated and illustrated.

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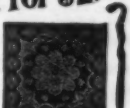

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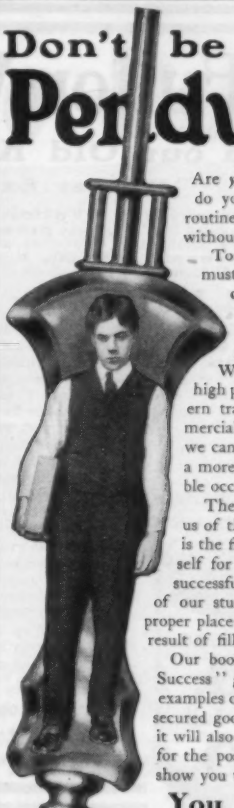

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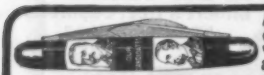

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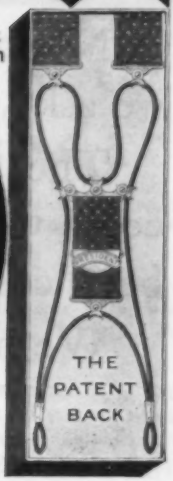

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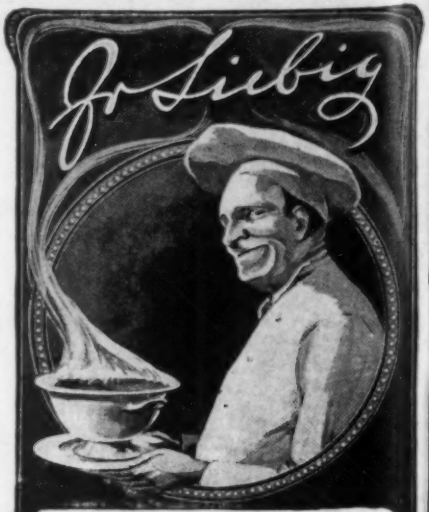

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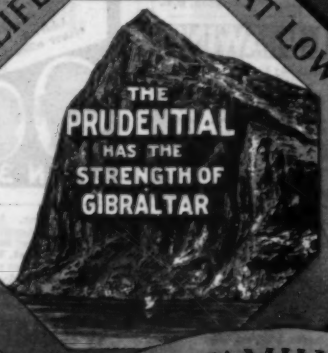

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Souvenir. You will receive in addition to our 1905 Catalogue a copy of our Souvenir History of Diamonds, more than a million copies of which were distributed at our Diamond Cutting Exhibit in the Varied Industries Building at the Saint Louis Exposition. Write at once to insure receiving a copy.

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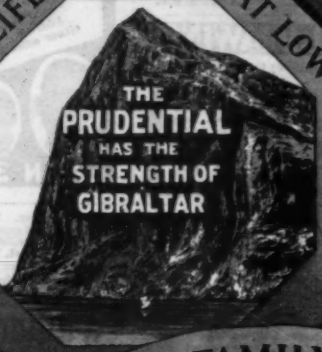

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Diamond Cutters and Manufacturing Jewelers

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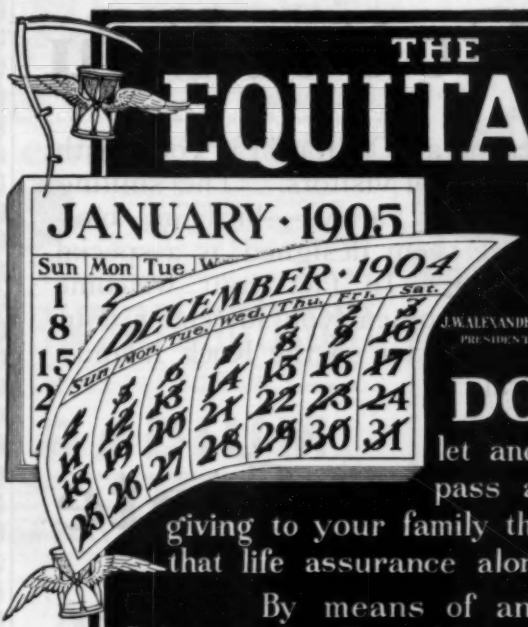

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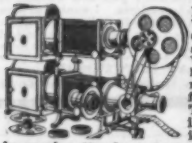

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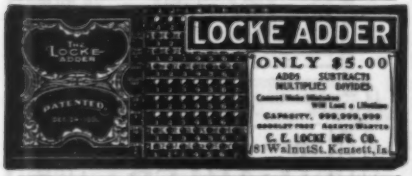

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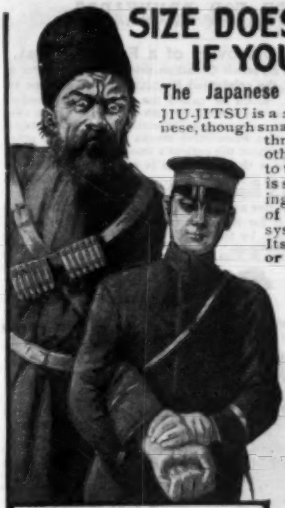

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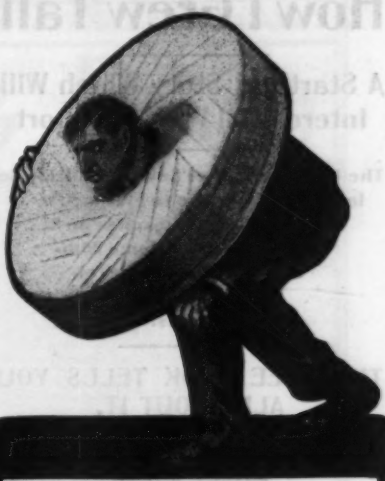

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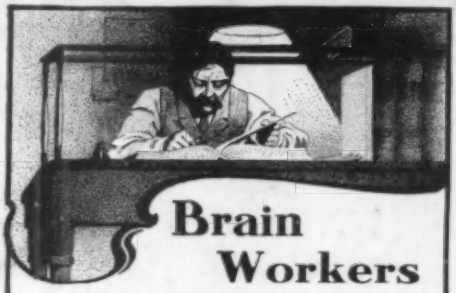

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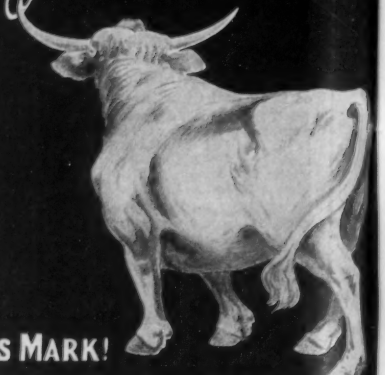

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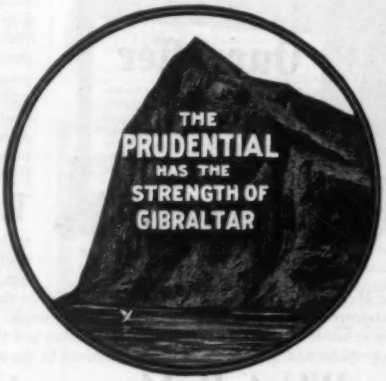

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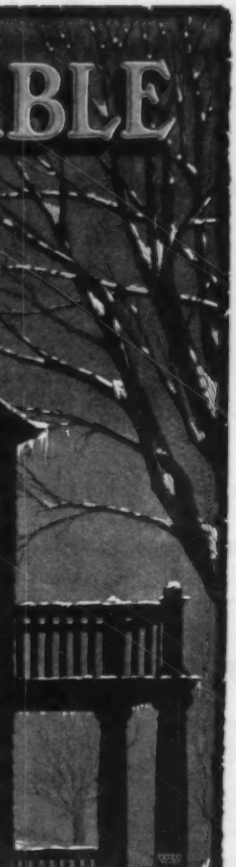

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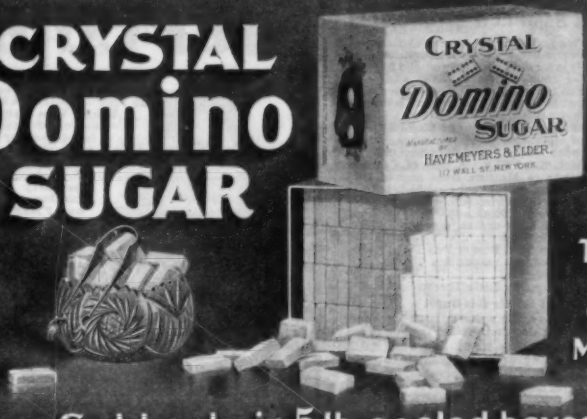

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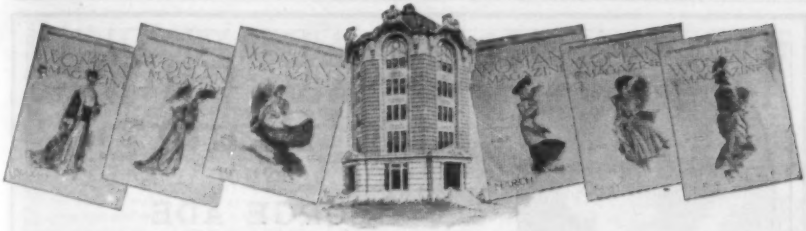

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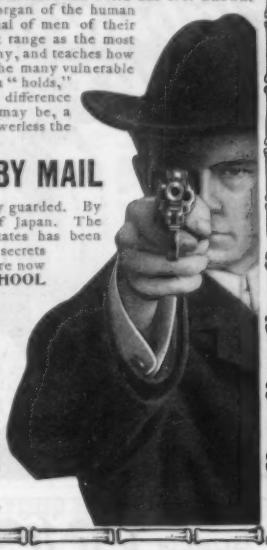

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For over 2,000 years the principles of Jiu-Jitsu have been religiously guarded. By an Imperial edict the teaching of the system was forbidden outside of Japan. The friendly feeling, however, existing between Japan and the United States has been instrumental in releasing Jiu-Jitsu from its oath-bound secrecy, and all the secrets of the Japanese National System of Physical Training and Self-Defense are now being revealed to the American people for the first time by the **YABE SCHOOL OF JIU-JITSU**, at Rochester, N. Y. Mr. Y. K. Yabe, formerly of the Ten-Shin Ryu School of Jiu-Jitsu, has formulated a correspondence course which contains full instructions in Jiu-Jitsu. It is identical with the course taught in the leading schools of Japan.

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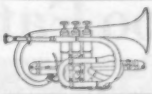

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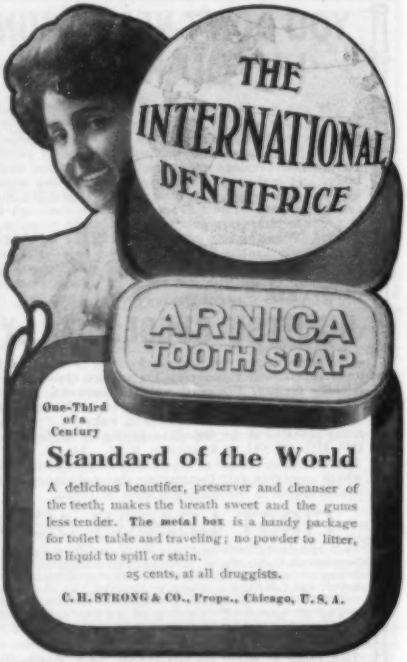

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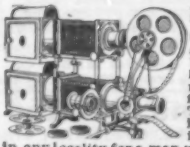

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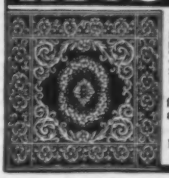

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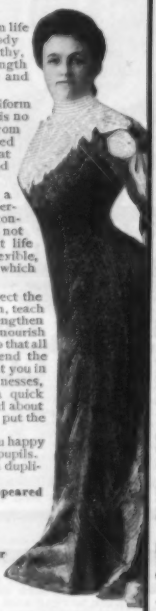

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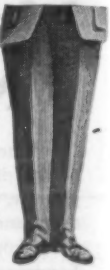

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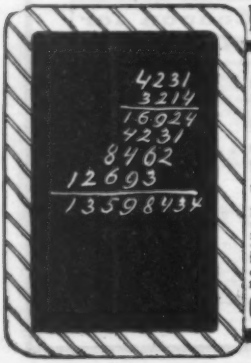

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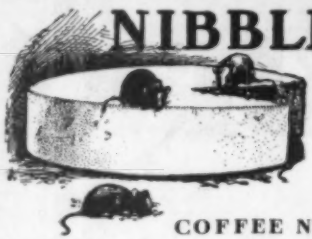

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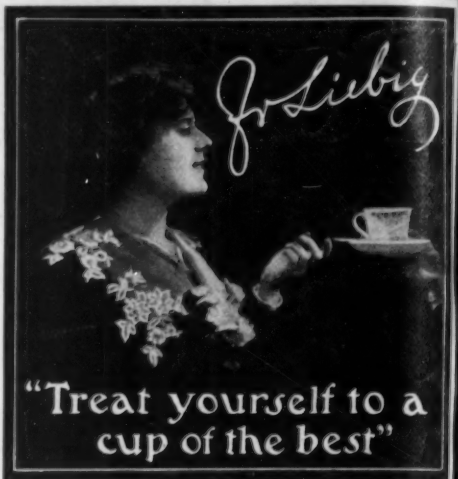

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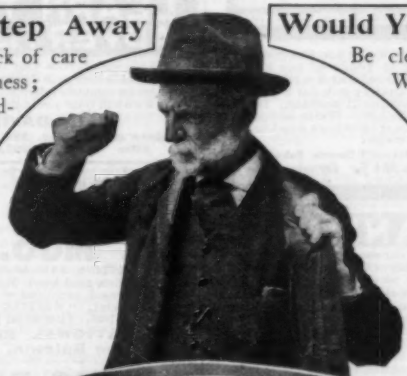
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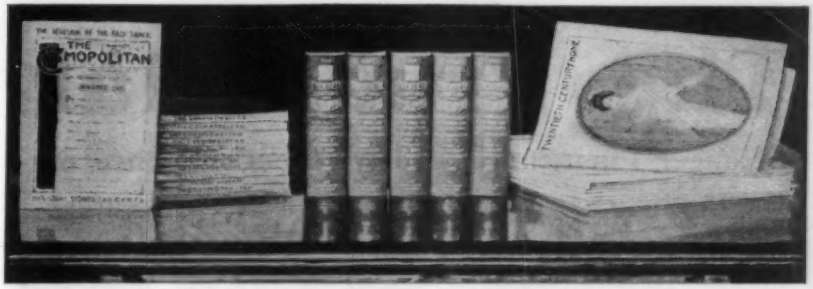

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Surplus, over	13 Million Dollars
Increase in Assets, over	16 Million Dollars
Paid Policyholders during 1904, over	13 Million Dollars
Total Payments to Policyholders, to Dec. 31, 1904, over	92 Million Dollars
Number of Policies in force, nearly	6 Million
Increase in Number of Policies in Force, over	One-half Million
Cash Dividends and Other Concessions not Stipulated in Original Contracts and Voluntarily Given to Holders of Old Policies to Date, over	5 Million Dollars

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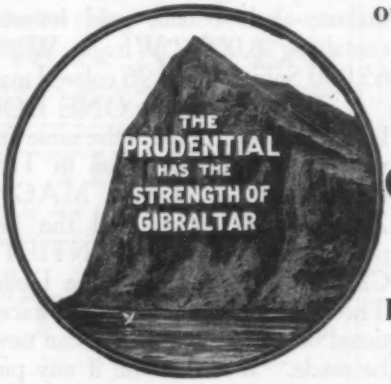

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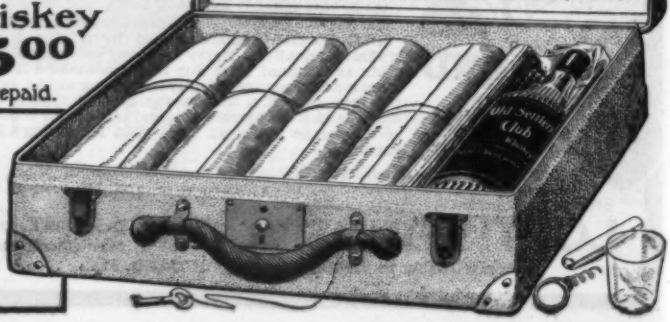

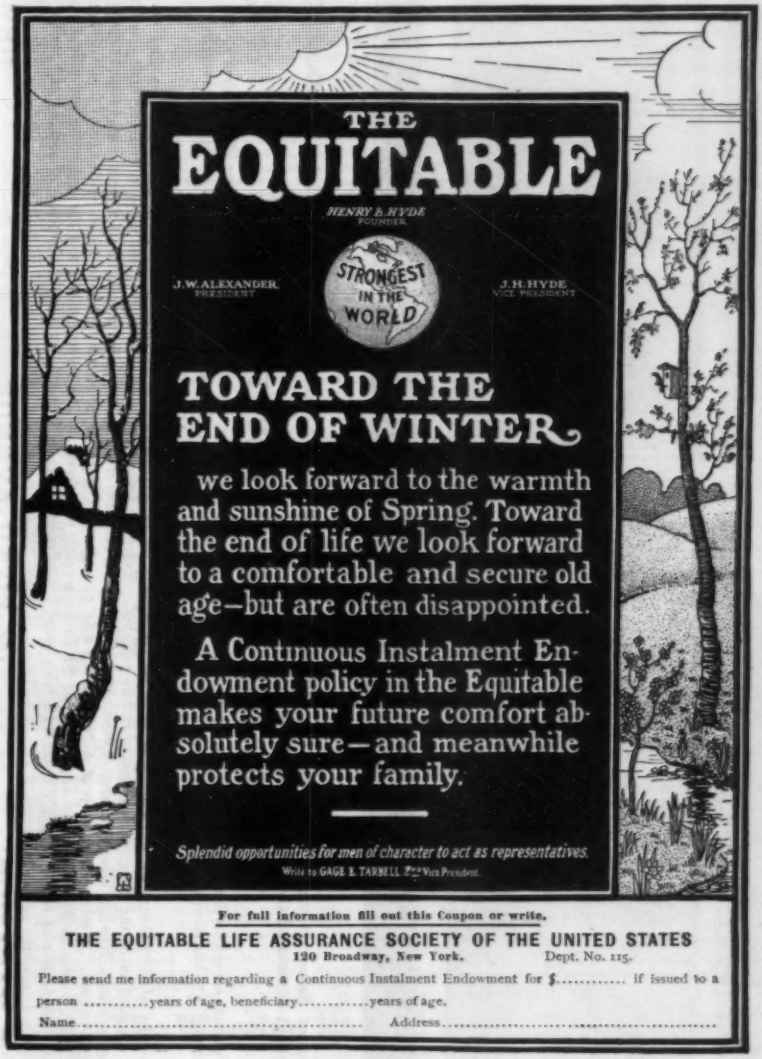
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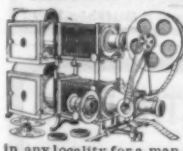

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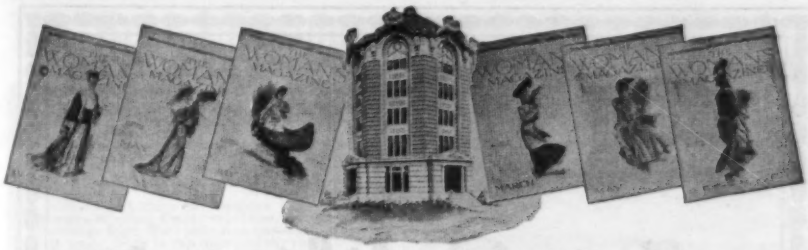

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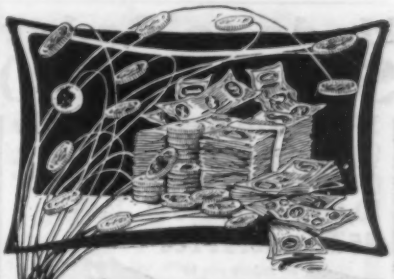

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for further information, and I will convince you of all I claim. I will give prompt personal and **Strictly Confidential** attention to your letter. Being a woman, I know of the delicacy of such a matter as this, and act accordingly. *Address,*

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My **PU-RE-CO SOAP and CREAM** removes and prevents wrinkles and preserves the skin. May be had at all the best druggists or direct from me.

PU-RE-CO CREAM,.....50c. and $1.00 a jar.

PU-RE-CO SOAP, a Box of Three Cakes.....50c.

Fat People

I Can Reduce Your Weight 3 to 5 Pounds a Week Without Any Radical Change In What You Eat; no nauseating drugs, no tight bandages nor sickening cathartics. **I am a Regular Practicing Physician, Making a Specialty of the Reduction of Superfluous Flesh;** and after you have taken my treatment a few weeks you will say: "I never felt better in my life."

Safe, Prompt and Certain

By my new, original scientific treatment your weight will be reduced without causing wrinkles or flabbiness of skin. Heavy abdomen, **DOUBLE OR UNDER CHIN** or other disagreeable evidences of Obesity will disappear. Your form will acquire symmetry as the bulk of fat is removed; complexion will be cleared; troubles of heart, kidneys, stomach or other vital organs will be remedied; and you will be delightfully astonished at the promptness and ease with which these results are accomplished under my system.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Call on me personally, or write, addressing Department as given below, for my new book on "Obesity—Its Cause and Cure." It is interesting, convincing and instructive. It will be sent you free and prepaid; don't send any money. Confidential correspondence invited from all, especially physicians. Address plainly and confidentially.

UNITED STATES MEDICAL DISPENSARY,

24 East 23d St., Dept. 100, New York City, N. Y.

Thousands of Readers of this Paper

have already cut out the following coupon. If you have not yet done so, you should by all means do so at once. Do not put it off, you may forget it or it may be too late. Each one sending in this coupon secures a contract certificate for from $100.00 to $500.00 in one of the most profitable enterprises in the world. Such an offer was probably never made before and you cannot afford to miss it. Every reader of this paper can and should take advantage of it immediately.

Cut This Out

$1,000.00 A YEAR

As Long As You Live

Do you want an income of from $100.00 to $1,000.00 a year for life? If so, return this coupon promptly. You take absolutely no risk of any kind. If upon examination you are not thoroughly convinced that this is one of the Greatest Opportunities of your life to secure a steady, permanent income, as long as you live, you are under no obligation to make any payments whatever, so don't delay, but send coupon at once.

Name.....

NOTE—Write name plainly so that no mistake will be made in filling out certificate

Post Office.....

County .....State.....

Please reserve.....Shares for me, send me certificate, booklet, reports and all information; if I am fully convinced that it is an enterprise of the soundest character and will prove Enormously profitable, I will pay for same at the rate of $2.00 per share per month until fully paid. No more than five shares reserved for any one person.

CONTINENTAL COMMERCIAL CO., 643 Fullerton Bldg., **ST. LOUIS, MO.**

An elegant souvenir photograph album containing a number of extremely interesting views will be sent to all sending in this coupon this month.

TO SOUTHERN

Winter Resorts

FLORIDA, CUBA, NEW ORLEANS, THE GULF COAST.

THE

LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE RAILROAD

OFFERS THE

FINEST SERVICE, FASTEST TIME AND CHOICE OF ROUTES

For Rates, Maps, Time Tables or Beautifully Illustrated Booklets, Descriptive of Southern Winter Resorts, New Orleans and Cuba, address

C. L. STONE,
General Passenger Agent, Louisville, Kentucky.

MAKE YOURSELF TALLER

Gilbert's Heel Cushions

"Worn inside the shoe."

Increase Height, Arch the Instep, Make Better Fitting Shoes, Remove Jar in Walking. Indorsed by physicians. Simply placed in the heel, felt down. Don't require larger shoes. ¼ in., 25c.; ½ in., 35c.; 1 in., 50c. per pair. At shoe and dep't stores. **READ** Send name, size shoe, height desired, and 2c. stamp for pair on ten days' trial.

GILBERT MFG. CO., 50 Elm St., Rochester, N. Y.

BARODA DIAMONDS.

....JUST DISCOVERED....

Brilliant as the genuine; one-thirtieth the cost; stand acid test; and PUZZLE EXPERTS; SOLID GOLD MOUNTING; thorough examination allowed before payments. Write for catalogue and special terms, etc. Agents wanted.

THE BARODA CO., Dept. 22
71 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

LADIES: WE ASK YOUR HELP FOR WHICH WE WILL GIVE YOU ABSOLUTELY FREE, CLOTH FOR FULL SUIT OR DRESS. If you will induce your husband, brother, son, sweetheart, or friend to write us for Free Samples of cloth, latest Fashion Plates, measurement blanks, etc., we will present you, absolutely FREE, with sufficient cloth of all-wool, stylish material also pattern to cut from, to make yourself a suit or dress, such a dress as you would have to pay $15 to $20 for; on receipt of order for one of our high-grade $10 **Men's Custom Suits.** Made to order from strictly **all wool cloth,** and **guaranteed perfect fit,** such a suit as other tailors charge $20.00 for. Suit and dress goods shipped together, subject to examination and approval, before paying C. O. D. If you want to earn a dress for yourself and the thanks of a gentleman, get him to write us at once.

CHICAGO MFG. & MDSE. CO.,
250 to 256 Market St., Dept. 208, Chicago, Ill.
Referen..e: Metropolitan Trust & Savings Bank, Capital $750,000

$29 VALUE FOR $10

We make to order men's latest style Sack Suits from all wool **Thibet, Scotch Cassimeres** or fine soft finished cheviots in the newest colorings and patterns, value.....$20.00

AN EXTRA PAIR OF PANTS FREE
Made of genuine fancy striped French Trousering, value.....$ 5.00
an extra vest **free**, made of white or fancy **Pique**, value$ 4.00
Custom Tailor's price.....$29.00
TO INTRODUCE we will make to your order one of our famous Suits, with extra Trousers and Dress Vest, together **for only**..... **$10**

A suit with an extra pair trousers is almost equal to two suits for wear. A full suit with extra trousers and extra fancy vest, dresses you in style every day and Sunday. **Write at once for free** samples for suits, extra trousers and fancy vest; measurement blanks, tape and full particulars—all free.

SPECIAL A Leather Handled Patent Gent's Suit Case **FREE.** Will tell you how.
Address **F 37—THE ROYAL OUTFITTERS**
242 to 246 Van Buren Street, . . . Chicago.
References: This Paper and all Express Companies.

AGENTS WANTED When writing for agency enclose 20 cts. postage stamps for samples, etc., this avoids delay

DIVIDEND

PAYING MINING, OIL, TIMBER, SMELTER, AND INDUSTRIAL STOCKS making possible **LARGE INTEREST and PROFITS**, listed and unlisted, our specialty. Booklets giving full information mailed free on application.

DOUGLAS, LACEY & CO.,
Bankers & Brokers, 66 Broadway, New York

Do You Want to go in BUSINESS for yourself?

If you know of any good business opportunity and need capital to establish yourself, write to me at once. I can supply the capital. No matter where you live or where you want to do business. Tell me how much you will need and send full particulars in first letter. Also send 4c in stamps for my booklet.

W. C. HAMMER, 903 Harrison Bldg. Philadelphia, Pa.

WE WANT AGENTS

in every town to ride and sell our bicycles. Good pay. Finest guaranteed **1905 MODELS**, with Puncture-Proof tires, Coaster-Brakes **$10 to $24**
1903 & 1904 Models of Best Makes..... **$7 to $12**
500 Second-Hand Wheels All makes & Models good as new **$3 to $8**
CLEARING SALE at half cost.
We *SHIP ON APPROVAL* and
TEN DAYS TRIAL to anyone *without a cent deposit.* Write at once for **Special Offer** on sample bicycle.
TIRES, SUNDRIES, AUTOMOBILES.
MEAD CYCLE CO., **Dept. T 111 CHICAGO**

A GOLD WATCH OF MERIT $5.50

GUARANTEED FOR 25 YEARS.

This is a Genuine Gold-Laid Engraved Watch double hunting case, stem-wind and stem-set and fitted with high-grade ruby jeweled movement. Send your name, P. O. and Express Office address and we will send you the **Watch, Watch-Chain and Charm C. O. D. $5.50** and express charges. Examine before paying express agent a cent. If as represented, pay $5.50 and express charges and it's yours. Write if you desire **Ladies' or Gents'** size. Address

SAFE JEWELRY CO., Dept. 124, CHICAGO.

$500. For You This Year

$2.00 a month buys **100 Shares** in the **"American Petroleum Syndicate"**—now **$25.00** and going to **$100**—perhaps **$500** before the end of this year. **Highest References. Safe as a Bank.** Write quick for particulars.

FRANK H. WRAY & CO.,
533 Broadway, New York.

Work for Yourself Not Others

Ambitious men and women, there is plenty money in the mail-order business, and it requires but little capital. Get started properly, conduct it right—it means independence and a large steady income. We teach this business completely. Send for free booklet.
Louis Guenther's Mail Order Bureau, 602 Schiller Bldg., Chicago

FREE TRUSS

I have a truss that's cured hundreds of ruptures. It's safe, sure and easy as an old stocking. No elastic or steel band around the body or between the legs. Holds any rupture. To introduce it every sufferer who answers this ad. can get one free. The U. S. Gov. has granted me a patent. ALEX SPEIRS, 718 Main St., Westbrook, Me

To Story Writers

While at present The Black Cat particularly desires very short and very clever stories, it will consider for purchase any tales not exceeding five thousand words, provided they are fascinating stories from beginning to end.

I am John Mackintosh the Toffee King

Copyright, 1904, John Mackintosh, New York.

MACKINTOSH'S TOFFEE

the Pure and Delicious

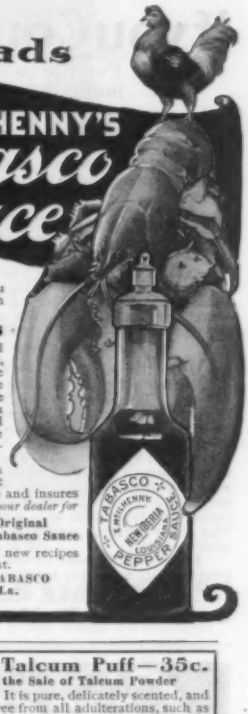
OLD ENGLISH CANDY

The enormous sales of my Toffee in this country and in England (the home of Mackintosh's Toffee) have made it the great international candy. It is absolutely pure and wholesome, and the best candy ever made for children. I want to caution you against inferior imitation of my Toffee. Be sure that you get the original "Mackintosh's Toffee." Ask your dealer, and if he cannot supply you send me Ten Cents in stamps for a sample package; or $1.60 for a 4-lb. Family Tin. Try your dealer first. **JOHN MACKINTOSH,**

Dept. 24 78 Hudson St., New York

For Salads

McILHENNY'S Tabasco Sauce



IT will surprise you how delicious a dash or two of

McILHENNY'S

Tabasco Sauce will make your salads, soups, roasts, etc. Try it once and you will realize why it has been in use nearly half a century in the leading hotels and restaurants and by the best families throughout the land.

Besides giving a spicy, piquant flavor, it creates a keen appetite and insures good digestion. *Ask your dealer for*

McIlhenny's The Original Tabasco Sauce

Free Booklet of new recipes on request.

McILHENNY'S TABASCO
New Iberia, La.

Too Fat

Don't ruin your stomach with a lot of useless drugs. Our method is perfectly safe, natural and scientific. It strengthens the heart, allows one to breathe easily and takes off Double Chin, Big Stomach, Fat Hips, etc. Send your address and 4 cts. to the Hall Chemical Co., "Box K. A.," St. Louis, Mo., for Free trial Treatment. No starving. No sickness. It reduces weight from 5 to 15 lbs. a month, and is perfectly harmless.

35c.—Sachet Talcum Puff—35c.

Is Revolutionizing the Sale of Talcum Powder

It is pure, delicately scented, and free from all adulterations, such as alum, or chalk, so often found in other Talcum powders. **You need nothing but the Puff itself.** The powder sifts through a patent, soft and fine eiderdown cushion, which prevents it from flying over dressing table or clothing. The cover is made of chamois, white kid, or silk, artistically hand-painted, making it a beautiful ornament or souvenir. Brings delight to skin after bathing or shaving. Cannot irritate the most sensitive skin. Far superior to old style tin can or box. **ONE SACHET PUFF OUTLASTS THREE BOXES OF OTHER POWDERS.** Sent postpaid on receipt of **35c.** *Agents wanted.* **The B Elvo Co., Wellfleet, Mass.**

$33.00 = $7.00 Down $3.25 Per Mo

This Beautiful

DIAMOND RING

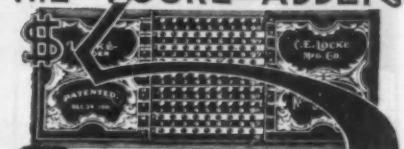
full ½ karat sent free for examination. A pure white gem absolutely perfect, set in solid 14 karat mounting. We give a written guarantee with Diamond stating full weight, quality and color of stone. Send us $7.00 and we will send ring prepaid, or if you prefer, we will send ring to your express office, allowing you to examine it, and if it is not as we represent it to be, return it at our expense; but if you find that the diamond is all we say it is, pay express agent $7.00 and he will deliver ring to you. The balance you may remit to us in eight monthly payments of $3.25 each. Address Dept. I.

Marquardt & Scott Co., Champlain Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

LADIES

to do piece work at their homes. We furnish all material and pay from $7 to $12 weekly. Experience unnecessary. Send stamped envelope to ROYAL CO. Desk B. C. 34 Monroe St., Chicago, Ills.

THE LOCKE ADDER



A Rapid, Simple, Handy, Practical and Durable, Low-priced Calculating Machine. For Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, Division, Fractions, etc. Capacity, 999,999,999. **Price, $5 and $10 prepaid in U.S.** Write for Free booklet. Agents wanted. **C.E. Locke Mfg. Co., 81 Walnut St., Kensett, Iowa.**

Buy a Locke Adder to Save your Brain

If you Could Make $250 per Year

For the balance of your life, by making a small payment monthly, without interfering with present occupation,

WOULD YOU DO IT?

We have asked this question candidly of over 300 business men who are now investing their monthly savings with us. So it would be with YOU if we had an opportunity to present the facts to you.

Tokay Grapes Yield 30 to 80 Per Cent. Profit Per Annum.

The growing of the Flame Tokay Grape in California pays enormous profits. We will furnish you evidence showing a clear profit of from $150.00 to $250.00 per acre per annum. The California Vineyards Co. of St. Louis, Mo., is a corporation composed of men of high standing, both as to integrity and finances. Its capital is $100,000.00 fully paid. It owns the only large tract in the Sacramento Valley, California, available for the successful raising of the Flame Tokay Grape. **We don't want to sell you a share of stock.** We have deeded this valuable tract of land to The Missouri Trust Company of the city of St. Louis, Mo., as trustee for the holders of our

VINEYARD INCOME BONDS

Each bond represents one acre, which we agree to clear, plant, irrigate and bring into bearing for you. These bonds sell for $350.00 each, payable in installments of $7.00 a month for 50 months. If purchased for cash, we allow a discount of ten per cent. **If you should go to California to-day with cash you couldn't buy an acre developed in BEARING TOKAYS under $500.00 to $600.00.** The grapes come into bearing three years after planting, and have been known to pay as high as $200.00 per acre from the first crop, so that when you have paid in on your bond as much as thirty-six to forty payments, $250.00 to $280.00, it is possible for this crop to pay you in profits as much as $100.00 to $200.00, and by the time you have your bond fully paid for, you may have received from your acre more than the cost of the same, and then thereafter have a steady income of from $150.00 to $300.00 per annum. With irrigation a failure of the grape crop is unknown. The older the vineyard gets the better it bears. Vineyards thirty years old are bearing better than ever before.

If you will write us we will send you a book containing photographs, an outline of the entire proposition, together with sworn affidavits of growers, proving every statement we make.

THE CALIFORNIA VINEYARDS CO.,
Suite 340 Fullerton Bldg. - - - St. Louis, Mo.

REVERSIBLE
Linene
Collars and Cuffs

Have You Worn Them?

Not "celluloid"—not "paper collars"—but made of fine cloth, exactly resemble fashionable linen goods and cost of dealers, for box of ten, 25 cents (2½ cents each).

No Washing or Ironing

When soiled discard. **By mail 10 collars or 5 prs. cuffs for 30 cents.** Sample collar or pair cuffs for 6 cents in U. S. stamps. Give size and style.

REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. O, Boston.

GIVEN TO YOU

Self-Lighting Pocket Lamp

Size of pencil, takes place kerosene lamps, candles and matches. Exclusive territory to Agents, rapid seller. Seeing's believing. Send stamp.

PREMIER MFG. CO.,
Dept 27, 32 PARK PLACE, NEW YORK.

STRAIGHT LEGS

If yours are not so, they will appear straight and trim if you wear our Pneumatic or Cushion Rubber Forms. Adjusted instantly, impossible to detect, easy as a garter. Highly recommended by army and navy officers, actors, tailors, physicians and men of fashion. Photo-illustrated book and testimonials mailed free under plain letter seal.

THE ALISON CO., Desk C4, Buffalo, N. Y.

International Correspondence Schools,

Box 834, SCRANTON, PA.

Please send me your booklet, "1001 Stories of Success," and explain how I can qualify for the position before which I have marked X

Bookkeeper	Electrician
Stenographer	Elec. Engineer
Advertisement Writer	Elec. Lighting Supt.
Show Card Writer	Mechan. Engineer
Window Trimmer	Surveyor
Mechan. Draughtsman	Stationary Engineer
Ornamental Designer	Civil Engineer
Illustrator	Building Contractor
Civil Service	Architect'l Draughtsman
Chemist	Architect
Textile Mill Supt.	Structural Engineer
French) with Edison	Foreman Plumber
Spanish) Phonograph	Mining Engineer

Name_____

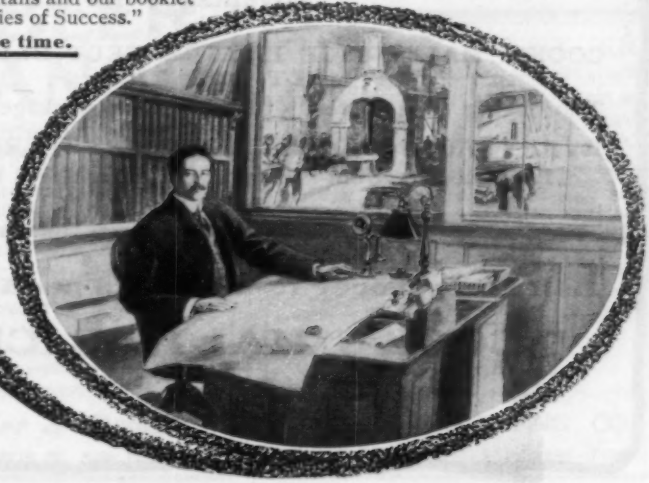
Street and No._____

City_____ State_____

How A Mark in this Coupon Brought Success

R. L. Tappenden was a forge shop apprentice at $12 a week when he marked this coupon. As a result of marking the coupon he became Superintendent of the forge department of the Fore River Ship and Engine Co., of Quincy, Mass., earning over $5000 a year. Mr. Tappenden's case is but one of thousands of similar experiences of those who have realized in **this coupon** their opportunity. To fill in and mail to us the coupon above is a simple and an easy thing to do. Yet it may be the starting point to great success for you. The **I. C. S.** has made it easy for every ambitious person to reach a better position and a higher salary. You can qualify yourself in your spare time and at low cost. Cut out, fill in and mail your coupon to-day and we will send you full details and our booklet "1001 Stories of Success."

Now is the time.



Cook's Malto-Rice

A Pure, Ready-to-eat Rice, Malted

RICE contains more nutriment and supplies more energy to the human body than anything that grows out of the ground, and is the easiest food to digest.

MALT as a marvelously beneficial stimulant and tonic, man had known for centuries, but only yesterday did he learn to combine it to the greatest advantage with his food.

COOK'S MALTO-RICE IS A PERFECT BLENDING OF MALT AND RICE.

Thoroughly cooked, ready to serve from package to dish.

EVERY PACKAGE OF MALTO-RICE IS STERILIZED.

It's pure, free from "lumps," germs, and will keep.

Ask your grocer to-day for a package of

COOK'S MALTO-RICE

15 Cents

A NEW GEM

RUBIFOAM

The endurance of the ruby and the pure lustre of the pearl are imparted to the teeth by the early and habitual use of

RUBIFOAM

Indispensable to the refined toilet is this beautiful gem of dentifrices.

PRICE 25 ¢ Sold Everywhere.
Put up by E.W.HOYT & CO.
LOWELL, MASS.

THE artist's triumph is reached in touching and swaying the emotions of the human breast. For the musician there is no better medium than the subtle, appealing and perfectly pure tones of GABLER PIANOS.

GABLER PIANOS

typify piano perfection because they represent the perfect union of science and art, tested and elevated by over three generations of manufacture. The highest ideals of art genius are made possible by the skill of the best artisans with the result that GABLER PIANOS stand to-day in the musical world as selections of the fittest, the especial delights of critical and cultured tastes.

Handsome Art Catalogue mailed free on request.

ADDRESS DEPT. E,

E. Gabler & Brother

409 East 107th St., New York.

QUILTED MATTRESS PADS

THREE SCORE and TEN YEARS is a long life, yet about THIRTY YEARS of it is spent in bed. Then why not make your bed as comfortable as it can be made.

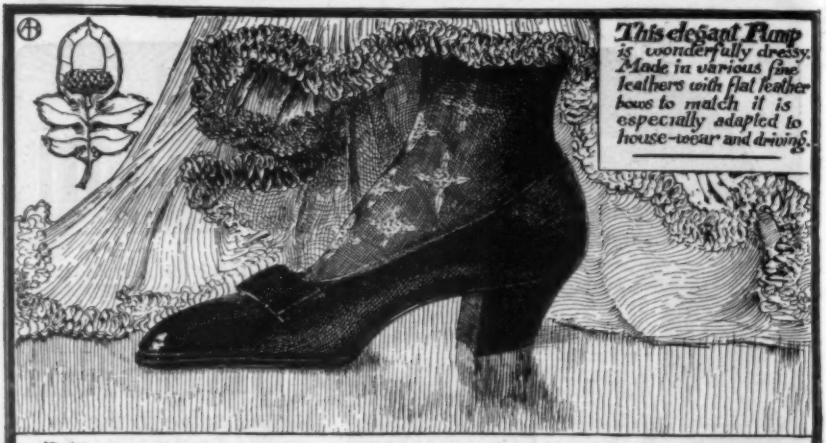
Quilted Mattress Pads will not only make it comfortable, but as they are spread over the mattress, they will protect it, and will keep your bed or baby's crib in a perfect Sanitary condition.

Quilted Mattress Pads wash perfectly, and are as good as new after laundering.

They are sold in all sizes by Dry Goods dealers

EXCELSIOR QUILTING CO.
15 Laight Street : : : New York

FEB 21 1905



This elegant Pump is wonderfully dressy. Made in various fine leathers with flat feather bows to match it is especially adapted to house-wear and driving.

Mode, that is to say the attractive action that distinguishes a stylish woman, depends very much on the kind of shoes she wears It is truly said that **Sorosis Shoes** *are factors of style, for, being most intelligently fashioned and excellently well made, their elegance is unquestionable and their comfort puts the wearer at ease. Also it is a fact that they are* **exclusive** *and this is because the* **Sorosis Shoe** *manufacturers make* **all** *their own lasts and patterns.*

Sorosis Shoes *for* **Men**, *for* **Boys**, *for* **Girls** *and for* **Infants** *are thoroughly satisfactory because stylish and comfortable and — considering their great durability — they are* **not** *expensive.*

A. E. LITTLE & CO. — LYNN, MASS. — MANUFACTURERS

BEFORE THAT TOTALLY DIFFERENT WHEEL—THE "RACYCLE"—WAS INVENTED OR EVEN THOUGHT OF, CHICAGO'S WORLD'S FAIR WAS A THING OF THE PAST.

RECORD OF A NOTABLE RACE

U. S. sweepstakes for bicycle supremacy. All ages.

In 1896,	Entered in U. S. alone, 288 bicycle factories. Last entry made—the RACYCLE,	(300 to 1 shot)
In 1898,	Aged and unfit entries dropping out. RACYCLE youngster just feeling his oats,	(100 to 1 shot)
In 1900,	Old-timers falling away rapidly. RACYCLE showing easy running qualities,	(10 to 1 shot)
In 1902,	Competition losing ground badly. RACYCLE running even with all rivals,	(Even money)
In 1903,	RACYCLE in the lead,	(The favorite)
In 1904,	All high grades easily distanced, the RACYCLE receiving the	

ONLY GRAND PRIZE

given in the bicycle class at the **ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR.**

THE LARGEST SELLING HIGH-GRADE BICYCLE IN THE WORLD.

Which will you ride for 1905—the WINNER, or one of the Also Rans?

No cheap RACYCLES, but secure agency for your town and get yours cheap. If a Bicycle will answer your purpose, remember we build them also, and will sell you a high-grade bicycle cheaper than mail-order houses sell inferior goods. Send for Catalog I.

THE MIAMI CYCLE & MANUFACTURING CO. **Middletown, Ohio, U. S. A.**

ARE YOU A THINKER?

Brain wears away day by day in just the proportion that it is used, but will become stronger and keener than before if daily rebuilt by proper food—the true way!

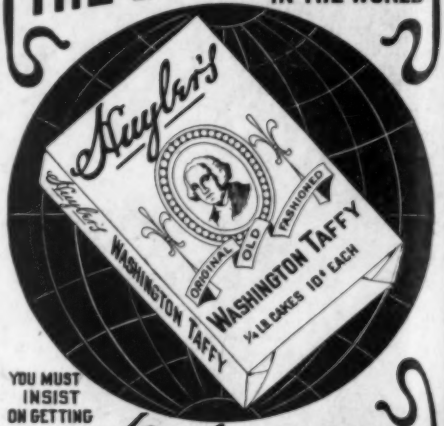
Grape-Nuts

the scientific food, contains the brain-building elements in just the right proportion, and 10 days' trial will show any brain-weary, nervous person the Road to Wellville.

It s worth while!

There's a reason.

IF YOU WANT
THE BEST TAFFY
IN THE WORLD



YOU MUST INSIST ON GETTING

Kuyler's OLD FASHIONED
WASHINGTON TAFFY

FOR SALE AT ALL OUR STORES & FIRST CLASS DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE
10 CENT CAKES IN TUBES.

Hydrozone

Cures

Sore Throat

Its action is immediate and beneficial. No burning or cauterizing. No injurious effects possible.

HYDROZONE is indorsed and has been successfully used by leading physicians for the past fourteen years.

Sold by best druggists.

TRIAL BOTTLE FREE

Beware of preparations with similar names. None genuine without my signature on label:

Prof. Charles Marchand

57 Prince St., N. Y.

Please send free a trial bottle of HYDROZONE. Coupon good only until Apr. 5, '05.

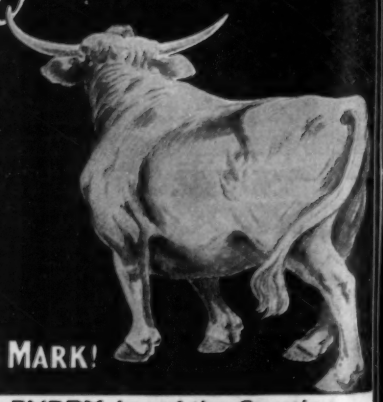
Name.....

Address.....

19 Write legibly.

Requests without coupon ignored; only one bottle to a family.

J. Liebig



HIS MARK!

On EVERY Jar of the Genuine
LIEBIG COMPANY'S
EXTRACT OF BEEF
"Just Perfect!"

INSIST

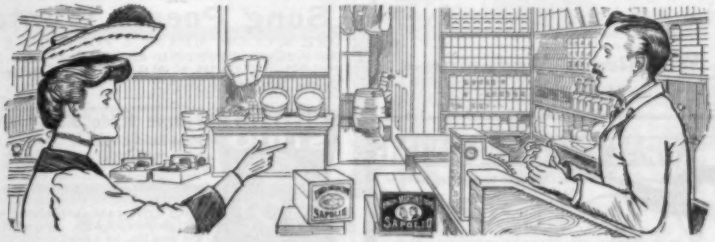
Do it gently, wisely, but firmly.
Insist on having HAND SAPOLIO from your dealer. He owes it to you.

He may be slow — hasten him a bit!

He may be timid — don't blame him, he has often been fooled into buying unsalable stuff — tell him that the very name **SAPOLIO** is a guarantee that the article will be good and salable.

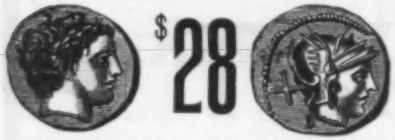
He may hope that you will forget it — that you do not want it badly — Insist, don't let him forget that you want it *very* badly.

He can order a small box—36 cakes—from any Wholesale Grocer in the United States. If he does, he will retain, and we will secure, an exceedingly valuable thing—your friendship.



JUST INSIST!

WE PAID



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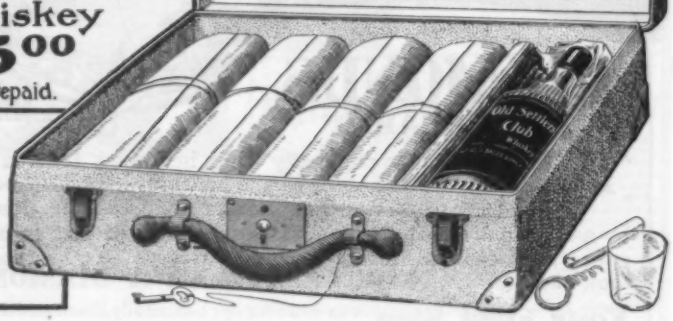

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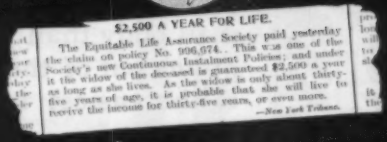

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On receipt of 15 cts. we will send postpaid Six Sample Packages of leading LOWNEY products as follows: **Lowney's Medallion Chocolate; Lowney's Milk Chocolate; Lowney's Vanilla Sweet Chocolate; Lowney's Premium Chocolate (unsweetened); Lowney's "Always Ready" Sweet Chocolate Powder; Lowney's Breakfast Cocoa; and a Lowney Receipt Book.**

THE WALTER M. LOWNEY CO., 447 COMMERCIAL STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

WE WANT SHORT STORIES

CASH Paid for Good Stories, Verses, Jokes, Drawings and Photographs. Send TWENTY Cents in Silver Today for One Year of the Most Unique Magazine in the World.

THE POSTAL MAGAZINE, CONCORD, NEBRASKA

You Can't Lose Your Umbrella

THE REMEMBER-ME UMBRELLA RIB RETAINER AND CARRIER

A clip, handsomely nickeled and engraved.

Holds ribs together; has two tongues to enable you to hang umbrella from your coat pocket or hat rack; removed from umbrella and attached to your clothing serves as a reminder when you are ready to go.

Sent postpaid for 10 cents.

Mail Order Men and Dealers send for circulars and special terms.

ATLANTIC MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Office 700 Broadway, Camden, N. J.

Raise Money Raising **25c Book Free**

GINSENG

That every reader of The Black Cat may learn how large profits are to be made through the planting of Ginseng, in a small garden space, I am distributing a limited edition of my regular 25 cent book absolutely without charge.

I am *Thompson* of Scranton, the Ginseng Man, I sell the true American Ginseng roots and seed, and guarantee them. Write for book today. Agents wanted,

ARTHUR C. THOMPSON, Dep't 61 Thompson Bldg., Scranton, Pa.

Look for the name

The Original. Others are Imitations

THE OLD ENGLISH CANDY

The enormous sales of this old English candy in this country as well as abroad have made it a great international candy.

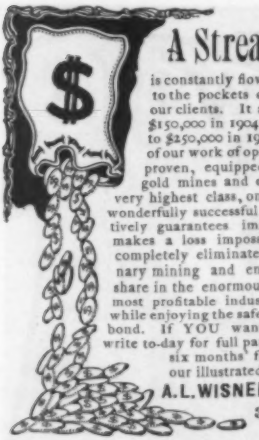
MACKINTOSH'S TOFFEE

has built up a reputation on its merits alone. The absolute purity and special flavor that characterize it is what makes it so popular.

Sold by all dealers. If yours hasn't it, write me. Ten-cent package by mail. A four-pound Family Tin for $1.60. Try your dealer first.

JOHN MACKINTOSH,

Dept. 24 78 Hudson St., New York



A Stream of Gold

is constantly flowing from our mines to the pockets of nearly 10,000 of our clients. It amounted to nearly $150,000 in 1904; it should amount to $250,000 in 1905. It is the result of our work of operating, developed, proven, equipped, dividend-paying gold mines and oil properties of the very highest class, on a safe, sound and wonderfully successful system that positively guarantees immense profits and makes a loss impossible. Our system completely eliminates the risks of ordinary mining and enables investors to share in the enormous dividends of the most profitable industries in the world, while enjoying the safety of a government bond. If YOU want to make money write to-day for full particulars, including six months' free subscription to our illustrated mining paper.

A. L. WISNER & CO., Bankers
32 Broadway
New York

3 Months Free

If you are interested in any kind of investment, Oil, Mining, Plantation, Industrial, Lands, Stocks, Bonds, Mortgages, etc., send us your name and address and we will send you The Investor's Review for three months free of charge. A journal of advice for investors. Gives latest and most reliable information concerning new enterprises. Knowledge is power. Great opportunities come and go. Great fakes likewise. Get posted before investing. Write to-day.

Investor's Review, 1408 Gaff Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

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PAYING MINING, OIL, TIMBER, SMELTER, AND INDUSTRIAL STOCKS making possible **LARGE INTEREST and PROFITS,** listed and unlisted, our specialty. Booklets giving full information **mailed free on application.**

DOUGLAS, LACEY & CO.,
Bankers & Brokers, 66 Broadway, New York

MONEY

All our clients are making money every week, every month and every year. Accounts can be withdrawn on demand. Mercantile and financial references. Booklet mailed upon request. LESLIE, MORRIS & CO., Incorporated, The Bourse, Philadelphia, Pa.

MEN AND WOMEN WANTED

to travel and distribute samples of our goods. **Salary $80 per month.** Expenses advanced. **RELIABLE MFG. CO., 340 A. D. WABASH AVE., - CHICAGO.**

$5,000 WILL YIELD 100% ANNUALLY

Your Capital Doubled Every Year

Half interest in a business having customers in every state in the Union, Canada, and orders for export: a monopoly in several lines with a large and rapidly increasing demand, can be secured for $5,000 to be used in increasing business by adding to stock. A business of great magnitude will quickly develop and pay large profits. Profits range from one hundred to one thousand per cent. This is a great opportunity for a lady or gentleman of integrity and honor. If desired, a position paying well may be secured, as there is plenty of work in this busy and growing enterprise.

Address, Post Office Box K, Station D, New York

SUPERFLUOUS HAIR

PERMANENTLY REMOVED

By My Scientific Treatment Especially Prepared for Each Individual Case.

I suffered for years with a humiliating growth of hair on my face, and tried many remedies without success; but I ultimately discovered the **True Secret** for the permanent removal of hair, and for more than seven years have been applying my treatment to others, thereby rendering happiness to, and gaining thanks of, thousands of ladies.

I assert and **Will Prove to You,** that my treatment will destroy the follicle and otherwise **Permanently Remove the Hair Forever.** No trace is left on the skin after using, and the treatment can be applied privately by yourself in your own chamber.

IF YOU ARE TROUBLED, WRITE TO ME for further information, and I will convince you of all I claim. I will give prompt personal and **Strictly Confidential** attention to your letter. Being a woman, I know of the delicacy of such a matter as this, and act accordingly. *Address,*

HELEN DOUGLAS, 166 Douglas Building, 35 West 21st St., NEW YORK CITY.

My **PU-RE-CO SOAP and CREAM** removes and prevents wrinkles and preserves the skin. May be had at all the best druggists or direct from me.

PU-RE-CO CREAM,.....50c. and $1.00 a Jar.
PU-RE-CO SOAP, a Box of Three Cakes.....50c.

Fat People

I Can Reduce Your Weight 3 to 5 Pounds a Week Without Any Radical Change in What You Eat; no nauseating drugs, no tight bandages nor sickening cathartics. **I am a Regular Practicing Physician, Making a Specialty of the Reduction of Superfluous Flesh;** and after you have taken my treatment a few weeks you will say: "I never felt better in my life."

Safe, Prompt and Certain

By my new, original scientific treatment your weight will be reduced without causing wrinkles or flabbiness of skin. Heavy abdomen, **DOUBLE OR UNDER CHIN** or other disagreeable evidences of Obesity will disappear. Your form will acquire symmetry as the bulk of fat is removed; complexion will be cleared; troubles of heart, kidneys, stomach or other vital organs will be remedied; and you will be delightfully astonished at the promptness and ease with which these results are accomplished under my system.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Call on me personally, or write, addressing Department as given below, for my new book on "Obesity—Its Cause and Cure." It is interesting, convincing and instructive. It will be sent you free and prepaid; don't send any money. Confidential correspondence invited from all, especially physicians. Address plainly and confidentially.

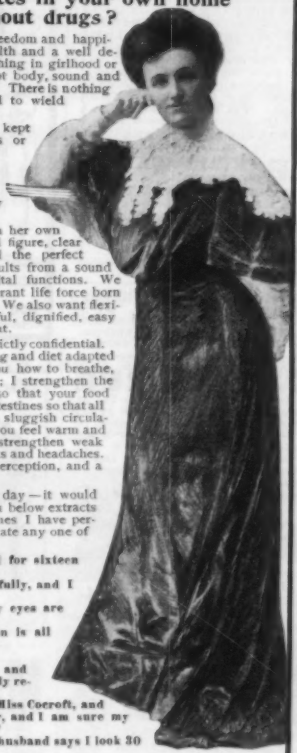
UNITED STATES MEDICAL DISPENSARY,
24 East 23d St., Dept. 154. New York City, N. Y.

What Will You Give

For Health and a Good Figure

Will you give me 15 minutes in your own home and get well without drugs?

—Perfectly, completely well, with that glad, joyous freedom and happiness in life and sweet personal loveliness which health and a well developed, graceful body alone can give? There is nothing in girlhood or womanhood as lovely as a healthy, vigorous, well-kept body, sound and sweet and wholesome, full of life and strength and fire. There is nothing which gives a woman such power to win love and to wield influence.



DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS

If the lungs, heart, nerves and every vital organ are kept strong, there is no need of drugs or medicine. The permanent relief from weaknesses can only be in **regaining the strength** of weakened organs. It has been shown that about 8,000 out of the 40,000 druggists are handling adulterated drugs, and probably fifty per cent. of the drugs contain morphine.

EVERY WOMAN CAN HAVE A CLEAR SKIN AND GOOD FIGURE

Any woman by practising fifteen minutes each day in her own room can have a good figure, clear skin, strong brain and the perfect bodily poise which results from a sound condition of all the vital functions. We women do not want large muscles, but we want that vibrant life force born of a healthful spirit which makes life worth living. We also want flexible, symmetrical, well-rounded figures with that graceful, dignified, easy carriage which denotes character, culture and refinement.

I HAVE HELPED 15,000 WOMEN TO HELP THEMSELVES

My instructions by mail are strictly individual and strictly confidential. I direct the exercise, bathing and diet adapted to your condition, teach you how to breathe, how to stand, how to walk. I strengthen the stomach and the nerves so that your food will nourish you; strengthen the liver, kidneys and intestines so that all impurities are thrown from your system; stimulate a sluggish circulation, send the blood bounding through your veins, so you feel warm and comfortable; put you in condition to resist colds; strengthen weak hearts and lungs, relieve you of weaknesses, lame backs and headaches. When this is done you will have a clear brain, a quick perception, and a vibrant life force.

I wish you could read the mail on my desk for one day—it would make you happy as it does me. I am quoting to you below extracts from some letters from my pupils. Some of these names I have permission to give—others I have not—but I can duplicate any one of these extracts many times a day.

"I have a better color in my face than I have had for sixteen years."

"My neck, chest and bust are filling out beautifully, and I have gained 13 pounds in the last two months."

"I have left off my glasses, Miss Cocroft, and my eyes are stronger."

"Just think! I can eat anything—my indigestion is all gone."

"My catarrh is entirely cured."

"The kidneys and liver are working splendidly, and after twenty years my constipation seems to be entirely relieved."

"I have not had a headache since my first lesson, Miss Cocroft, and the doctor says my heart and lungs are much stronger, and I am sure my nerves are. Those neuralgic pains are entirely gone."

"I have lost 66 pounds. Can you believe it? My husband says I look 30 years younger."

"Those lumps which I feared were tumors have all gone, and I have no more rheumatism. I'm so happy."

I take but a limited number of pupils, because I give each pupil my personal attention. I do not work with a woman unless I am sure I can help her. I know I can reduce Prominent Abdomen and Hips, build up Thin Necks and Chests and bring any woman to roundness and symmetry. I have done all of these hundreds and hundreds of times. It is no longer an experiment with me. Write to me, telling me your particular difficulties and I will send you letters from pupils and give you the names of women who have been relieved of above and other difficulties. I will send you an instructive booklet on how to stand correctly. Every woman should know this if she would be perfectly well. I charge you nothing for this booklet and nothing for my information in regard to your case. Do not hesitate to write me. I hold pupils' letters in confidence.

MY BOOKLET AND ADVICE ARE FREE

Suranna Cocroft.

Dept. 11, 57 Washington St., CHICAGO.

FILL OUT, CUT OFF AND MAIL THIS BLANK NOW!

Name .....

Address .....

Dept. 11.

Will you not mark with the letter (X) on the attached blank the points which interest you and if there are any particulars in regard to your case which you feel I need, write me about them also, and I will tell you frankly whether I can help you.

- Too thin
- Round shouldered
- Superfluous flesh
- Prominent hips
- Protruding abdomen
- Height
- Weight
- Do you stand correctly
- Thin chest
- Thin bust
- Thin neck
- Complexion
- Do you walk gracefully
- Weakness
- Lame back
- Dulness
- Irritable
- Nerves
- Headaches
- Catarrh
- Dizziness
- Indigestion
- Constipation
- Liver
- Kidneys
- Lungs
- Heart
- Throat
- Colds
- Rheumatism
- Circulation
- Blood
- Is your health or figure imperfect in any way not mentioned here?
- Occupation
- What is your age?
- Married or single?

Miss Cocroft, as President of the Physical Culture Extension Work in America, has had an unusually wide experience in diagnosing cases and prescribing individual work for women.

RUPTURE CURED while you work. You pay $4.00 when cured. No cure, no pay.
ALEX SPEIRS, Box 218, WESTBROOK, ME.

BARODA DIAMONDS.
....JUST DISCOVERED....
Brilliant as the genuine; one-thirtieth the cost; stand acid test; and PUZZLE EXPERTS; SOLID GOLD MOUNTING; thorough examination allowed before payment. Write for catalogue and special terms, etc. Agents wanted.
THE BARODA CO., Dept. 32 71 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

Revolver Watch Charm

A PERFECT BEAUTY

Made of pure aluminum; will never corrode or tarnish. It is a perfect miniature pistol, clean cut to the minutest detail. **Lasts a lifetime. Price** : 10c. each, 3 for 25c., 6 for 50c.

Address H. M. WILLIS, 150 Nassau St., New York

ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE

Shake Into Your Shoes

"In a pinch, use Allen's Foot-Ease."

Allen's Foot-Ease, **a powder for the feet.** It cures painful, swollen, smarting, nervous feet, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. **It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age.** Allen's Foot Ease makes tight-fitting or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for ingrowing nails, sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. We have over 30,000 testimonials. **TRY IT TO-DAY.** Sold by all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. **Do not accept any substitute.** Sent by mail for 25c. in stamps.

FREE TRIAL PACKAGE sent by mail.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS, the best medicine for Feverish, Sickly Children. Sold by Druggists everywhere. Trial Package FREE. Address,

ALLEN S. OLMSTED, LeRoy, N. Y.

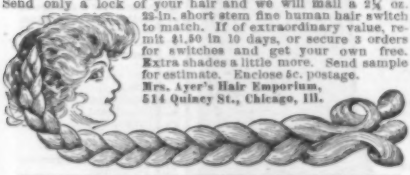
[Mention this paper.]

Ladies having fancywork to sell, Embroideries, Battenberg, and Drawnwork, also to do order work, send stamped envelope.

LADIES' EXCHANGE, Dept. T, 24 Monroe Street, Chicago

This **BEAUTIFUL HAIR SWITCH** ON EASY CONDITIONS. **FREE**

Send only a lock of your hair and we will mail a 24 oz. 22-in. short stem fine human hair switch to match. If of extraordinary value, remit $1.50 in 10 days, or secure 3 orders for switches and get your own free. Extra shades a little more. Send sample for estimate. Enclose 5c. postage.

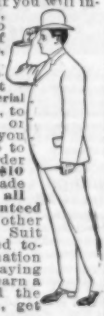


Mrs. Ayer's Hair Emporium,
514 Quincy St., Chicago, Ill.

Too Fat

Don't ruin your stomach with a lot of useless drugs. Our method is perfectly safe, natural and scientific. It strengthens the heart, allows one to breathe easily and takes off Double Chin, Big Stomach, Fat Hips, etc. Send your address and 4 cts. to the Hall Chemical Co., "Box K. A.," St. Louis, Mo., for Free trial Treatment. No starving. No sickness. It reduces weight from 5 to 15 lbs. a month, and is perfectly harmless.

LADIES: WE ASK YOUR HELP FOR WHICH WE WILL GIVE YOU ABSOLUTELY FREE, CLOTH FOR FULL SUIT OR DRESS. If you will induce your husband, brother, son, sweetheart, or friend to write us for **Free Samples** of cloth, latest **Fashion Plates,** measurement blanks, etc., we will present you, absolutely **FREE,** with sufficient cloth of **all-wool, stylish material** also pattern to cut from, to make yourself a suit or dress, such a dress as you would have to pay **$15** to **$20** for; on receipt of order for one of our high-grade **$10 Men's Custom Suits.** Made to order from strictly **all wool cloth,** and **guaranteed perfect fit,** such a suit as other tailors charge $20.00 for. Suit and dress goods shipped together, subject to examination and approval, before paying C. O. D. If you want to earn a dress for yourself and the thanks of a gentleman, get him to write us at once.



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250 to 256 Market St., Dept. 203, Chicago, Ill.
Referen.e: Metropolitan Trust & Savings Bank, Capital $750,000

35c.—Sachet Talcum Puff—35c.

Is Revolutionising the Sale of Talcum Powder

It is pure, delicately scented, and free from all adulterations, such as alum, or chalk, so often found in other Talcum powders. **You need nothing but the Puff itself.** The powder sifts through a patent, soft and fine eiderdown cushion, which prevents it from flying over dressing table or clothing. The cover is made of chamois, white kid, or silk, artistically hand-painted, making it a beautiful ornament or souvenir. Brings delight to skin after bathing or shaving. Cannot irritate the most sensitive skin. Far superior to old style tin can or box. **ONE SACHET PUFF OUTLASTS THREE BOXES OF OTHER POWDERS.** Sent postpaid on receipt of **35c.** *Agents wanted.* **The B Elvo Co., Wellfleet, Mass.**

Make $5,000 A Year

Many of our representatives are doing it. We want first-class local agents in every city and town to sell our high grade guaranteed dividend paying mining and oil securities on commission. We are the leading firm in our line in America and are operating only developed, paying properties on a new and successful system that absolutely insures satisfactory and profitable results. The right man can quickly build up a large permanent, profitable business. References required.

A. L. Wisner & Co., Bankers, 32 Broadway, New York

CROOKED SPINES MADE STRAIGHT

If you are suffering from any form of spinal trouble you can be relieved in your own home without pain or discomfort. A wonderful anatomical appliance has been invented by a man who cured himself of Spinal Curvature. Its results are marvelous. It is nature's own method. The scientific and medical world is amazed at the work being effected. Noted physicians in prominent medical institutions and in private practice are endorsing it. The Sheldon Method relieves the pressure at the affected parts of the spine, the whole spine is invigorated and strengthened, all soreness is taken out of the back, the cartilage between the vertebrae is made to expand, the contracted muscles are relaxed and the spine is straightened. There is bright hope for you, no matter how long you have suffered. We have strong testimonials from every state in the Union. The appliances are being sent all over the world. Each one is made to order from individual measurements and fits perfectly. There is positively no inconvenience in wearing. **We guarantee satisfaction, or refund your money at the end of thirty days' trial.** Write for our new book giving full information and references.

PHILO BURT MFG. CO., 231 4th Street, Jamestown, N. Y.

Mullins Stamped Steel Boats Can't Sink

Motor Boats, Row Boats Hunting and Fishing Boats

Staunchly built of strong, rigid steel plates, with air chambers in each end like a life boat—buoyant—strong—safe—speedy. They don't leak, crack, dry out, wear out or sink.

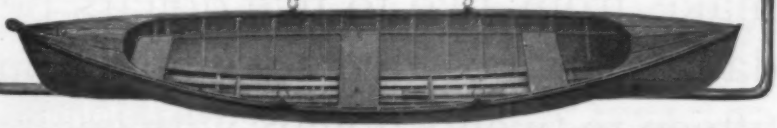
Mullins Steel Motor Boats are elegantly equipped, full fledged, torpedo stern launches—not row boats with motors in them.

Motor Boats, 16 foot, 1½ h. p., $135; 18 foot, 3 h. p., $240.
Row Boats $20 up.

All boats are sold direct and every boat is fully guaranteed.

Every Boatman Should Send For 1905 Catalogue
which shows all our new models and many innovations in boat building.

The W. H. Mullins Co. (The Steel Boat Builders) **148 Franklin St., Salem, Ohio.**
Member National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers.



A GOLD WATCH OF MERIT $5.50

GUARANTEED FOR 25 YEARS.

This is a Genuine Gold-Laid Engraved Watch double hunting case, stem-wind and stem-set and fitted with high-grade ruby jeweled movement. Send your name, P. O. and Express Office address and we will send you the **Watch, Watch-Chain and Charm C. O. D. $5.50** and express charges. Examine before paying express agent a cent. If as represented, pay $5.50 and express charges and it's yours. Write if you desire **Ladies' or Gents'** size. Address

SAFE JEWELRY CO., Dept. 131, CHICAGO.

Special Features of OUTDOORS for April

OUTDOORS
A Magazine of Country Life

Fresh as the south wind blowing Spring northward is OUTDOORS for April. The awakened interest of all in expeditions, journeys and vacations into the outdoors will be further quickened by a perusal of its pages. Many suggestions and hints that will aid those planning vacations are furnished by its fresh breezy pages.

The Most Practical and Beautiful Outdoor and Country Life Magazine

SINGLE COPIES, TEN CENTS
BY THE YEAR, ONE DOLLAR

Outdoor people will be pleased with this April number of OUTDOORS, which is better than any previously issued. Look for it on the news-stands or send to the publishers.

ARTHUR FULLER CO., Publishers, 150 Fifth Ave., New York

DO YOU NEED Money to go in business, or for any other legitimate purpose. My business is to furnish capital to any one, anywhere. State how much you need, for what purpose, and send 10 cts. coin or postage, for my plan. Address
W. C. HAMMER, 903 Harrison Bldg., Phila., Pa.

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300 Foreign Stamps, **10c.** **104**—all different—from Malta, Bulgaria, India, etc., Album **10c.** **40** different U. S. **10c.** **200** var. **25c.** **500** var. **$1.25.** **1000** var. **$4.75.** 32-page list free. Agents wanted. 50 p.c. com.
K. Crowell Stamp Co. 514 Caxton Bldg. Cleveland, O.

$7.98 DRESSES ANY MAN

With an All-Wool Cheviot Made-to-Measure Suit.

EXTRA PAIR OF TROUSERS FREE

To introduce our famous made-to-measure custom tailoring we make this unequaled offer of a **Suit made to your measure,** in the latest English Sack Style, well made and durably trimmed for only **$7.98.** *Equal to your local tailor's $15 suit,* and **give you an extra pair of trousers** of the same cloth as the suit, or a fancy pattern if desired, **absolutely free.** Send us your name and address and we will send you **Free Samples** of cloth, measurement blank and tape-line. **Send no money** but write to-day to

GENTS' OUTFITTING CO. Dept 102
242 Market St., Chicago.
Ref: First National Bank, Chicago. Capital, $13,000,000.
Traveling Salesmen Wanted

TO SOLICITORS AND AGENTS

THE COSMOPOLITAN has absolutely the best offer ever put in the field for canvassers and agents. Where under the ordinary offer a canvasser can make from two to five dollars per day, it is possible to make from fifteen to twenty dollars with such a proposition as The Cosmopolitan is making for 1905. One canvasser has actually taken fourteen orders out of eighteen people seen. At all events you can easily send a postal, and we will forward you full particulars.

THE COSMOPOLITAN PUBLISHING HOUSE
IRVINGTON-ON-THE-HUDSON, N. Y.

Beautifies and Preserves the Complexion.

A Positive Relief for Chapped Hands, Chafing and all Skin Afflictions.

Mennen's face on every box; be sure that you get the original. Sold everywhere, or by mail 25 cents. **Sample free.**

Gerhard Mennen Co., Newark, N. J.

TRY MENNEN'S VIOLET TALCUM.

A Complete Carpet for $2.50

Cheapest and most attractive floor covering made is our

BRUXELLE ART RUG

woven in one piece, all sizes and colors. Reversible. Easily cleaned. warranted to outwear higher priced carpets. **Delivered free.** Money refunded if not as represented. Cheapest and best thing of the kind. Catalogue free, showing goods in natural colors. Send to place nearest you.

SANITARY MFG. CO., Inc.
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LOCKE ADDER

$5.00 $10.00

Now Everybody can have an Adding Machine!

Rapid, Simple, Handy, Practical, Durable. Capacity 999,999,999

MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFACTORY

C. E. LOCKE MFG. CO.
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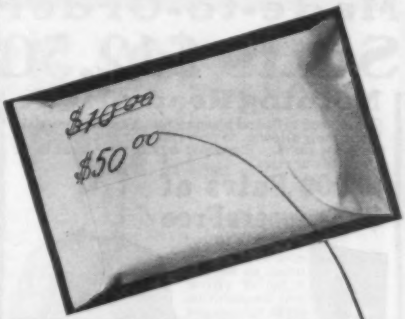
MAKE YOURSELF TALLER

Gilbert's Heel Cushions

"Worn inside the shoe."

Increase Height, Arch the Instep, Make Better Fitting Shoes, Remove Jar in Walking. Indorsed by physicians. Simply placed in the heel, felt down. Don't require larger shoes. ½ in., 25c.; ¾ in., 35c.; 1 in., 50c. per pair. At shoe stores. **READ** Send name, size shoe, height desired, and 2c. stamp for pair on ten days' trial.

GILBERT MFG. CO., 50 Elm St., Rochester, N. Y.



THE MARK THAT MULTIPLIES YOUR SALARY

When an institution with a working equipment valued at $5,000,000 and a reputation of 13 years' continued success offers to show you *without charge* how to **multiply your salary**, either by advancing in your present work or by changing to a more lucrative occupation offering greater opportunities for your natural talents, isn't the offer worthy of your consideration?

When this institution further offers to give you the names and addresses of **thousands** who as the direct result of investigating this offer have either secured lucrative positions or are managing enterprises *of their own*, isn't it worth the time it takes to ask how **you** can do likewise?

Doesn't your curiosity, *if not* your ambition, make it impossible for you to allow the opportunity to go by when this institution invites you, without further obligations on your part, to indicate the position you would like to have, by simply making

A MARK LIKE THIS

Study the List—Mark the position you desire
Cut out the Coupon and mail it to us

International Correspondence Schools
Box 834, SCRANTON, PA.

Please send me your booklet, "1001 Stories of Success," and explain how I can qualify for the position before which I have marked X

Bookkeeper	Electrician
Stenographer	Elec. Engineer
Advertisement Writer	Elec. Lighting Supt.
Show Card Writer	Mech. Engineer
Window Trimmer	Surveyor
Mechan'l Draughtsman	Stationary Engineer
Ornamental Designer	Civil Engineer
Illustrator	Build'g Contractor
Civil Service	Archit'l Draughtsman
Chemist	Architect
Textile Mill Supt.	Structural Engineer
French \ with Edison	Foreman Plumber
Spanish / Phonograph	Mining Engineer

Name_____

Street and No._____

City_____ State_____

Made-to-Order Suits $12.50

Nothing Ready-Made

Guaranteed to fit and please you. You take no risk. You simply allow us to prove how much better our garments are than those you buy of your local tailor for twice our price.

10,000 Pairs of $5 Trousers Free

FREE

To induce you to give us your first order, so we can actually show you the exclusive style, splendid fit and remarkable value we give, we will give you a pair of **$5 All-Wool Trousers free** with your first suit order, providing you willmentionthis magazine and write today for **Free Cloth Samples** of our elegant **$12.50, $15, $18 and $20 guaranteed all-wool suits, each made strictly to order.**

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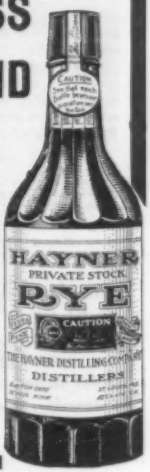

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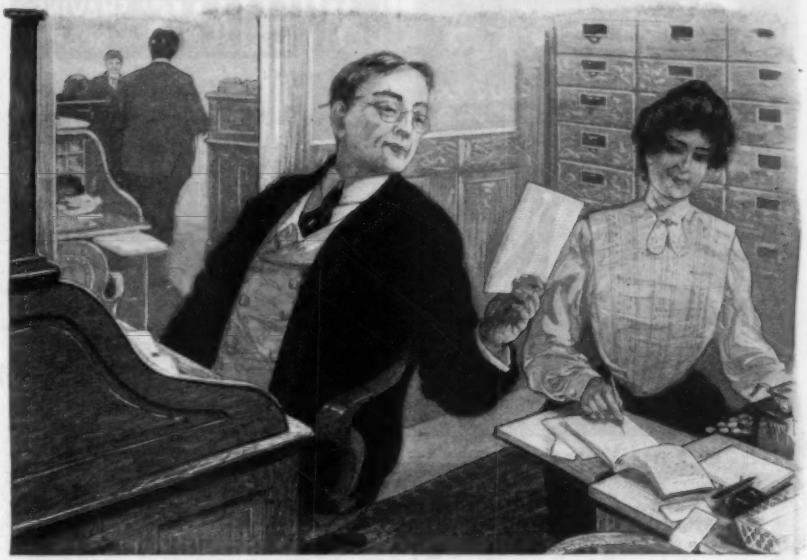

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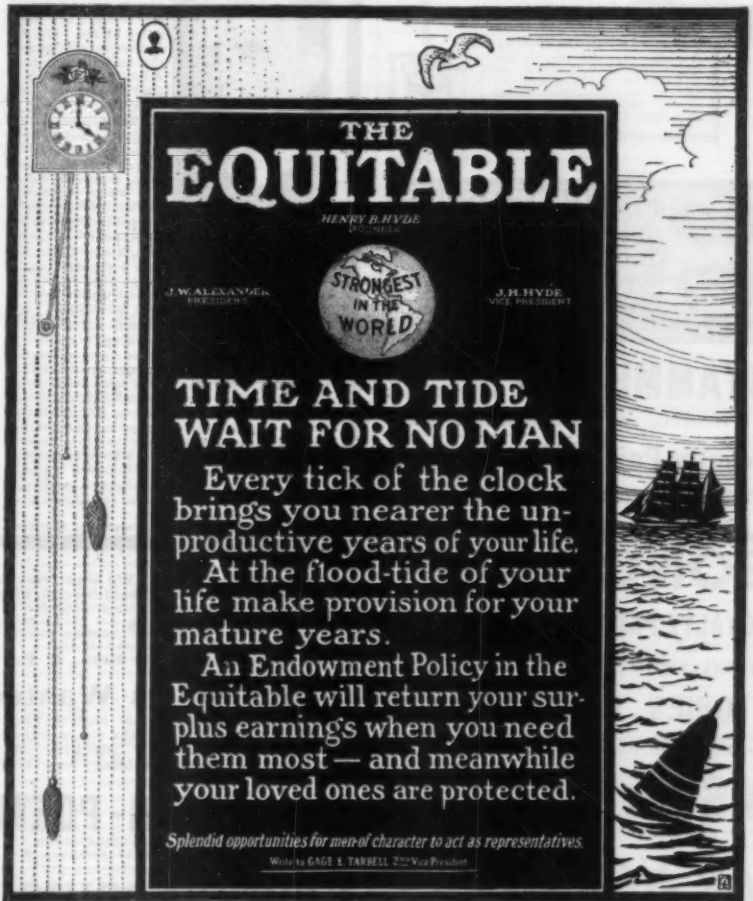
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The Editor

To You Who Write

The Editor

This little chat is for writers. If you write, or if you have an itching to write, we want to talk to you. We know some things about writing that may interest you, and we shall try to put them in such a chatty form that you will forget you are reading an advertisement until we break in solemnly and ask, "Good morning! Have you subscribed for THE EDITOR?"

Lots of authors have. Not so many years ago we entered a subscription from a man out in California. We had never seen his name in the magazines, but we had faith in him, as we have in all honest workers. One day we found a story of his in a magazine, and presently another, and another, till we came to look for them regularly. We were immensely pleased at his success, and down in one corner of our heart we were egotistically certain that our magazine had been one of its factors. We never dared voice our belief, it is true, but we cherished it for our own satisfaction. One morning, in our mail, we found a letter from him. "When I subscribed," he wrote, "I had a goodly file of my manuscripts laid away. Through your help I have disposed of the major portion." It was signed in that great scrawling hand so many editors know — "Jack London."

If you want to follow the trail blazed by Mr. London, you should go about it by studying the profession. We pride ourselves on the fact that THE EDITOR is a pretty good, live text-book. It is a mighty poor sort of a teacher, you know, who never sees an educational journal; new methods and systems are cropping out constantly. No doctor dares get behind in his profession. And no writer — we leave this to you — likes to send a manuscript to a magazine that suspended a few months ago; nor allow an article to go unread that may cover just the peg on which his or her rejections cling. The writer wants hints, helps, — as many of them as possible; everybody does. Just at this moment we cannot recall a magazine that better meets this want than THE EDITOR.

How to Judge Literary Bureaus

When you get a glittering prospectus from a company that promises to make you an author of world-wide reputation, ask yourself these questions:

1. Have the men who form the bureau ever written anything themselves?
2. Have they had years of experience in the work of criticizing and revising?
3. Have they ever accomplished anything?
4. Has the bureau any standing among editors and publishers?

Now, after you have drawn the blue pencil through the glittering generalities of their statements, study our reasons for believing we are warranted in expecting and deserving your patronage.

1. Not an editor in our employ is an editor alone; every man has written and published his own stories in high-class magazines; every man has published his own books through the best houses in America.
2. THE EDITOR LITERARY BUREAU has been before the public for over ten years. During the whole period of its existence it has handled more work than any other, and has passed upon matter that later appeared in the very best magazines and between the covers of the books of the very best publishing houses.
3. It has placed books with publishers as an example we cite "Stringtown on the Pike," by John Uri Lloyd, which was one of the most popular stories of the day. It has secured words of approval for its services from the very best writers in America — note Jack London, etc. Through its advice thousands of stories have been placed with the best magazines.
4. The editors of the leading magazines recommend THE EDITOR LITERARY BUREAU. Although not at liberty to mention names, we can convince any doubting patron. One publication that has not asked us to refrain from mentioning it is *Munsey's*, which has directed more than one writer to us during the past few months.

We invite comparisons on this basis with any other company in this country doing work of this nature.

The EDITOR

A Journal of Information for Writers

IT PUBLISHES:

Contributions of prominent authors
Articles on story writing
Articles on essay writing
Articles on versification
Articles on marketing manuscripts
Hints on preparing manuscripts
Notes from editors stating needs
Notices of all new publications
Notices of all suspended publications
Notices of all timely editorial needs
Lists of magazines that want manuscripts
Complete monthly report on literary market
Answers to literary queries, departments, etc.

Also conducts literary bureau under direct supervision of Leslie W. Quirk, in which is offered expert criticism on manuscripts, advice as to strengthening, correcting, revising, mastery of technique, etc., together with a list of magazine, syndicate, or newspaper markets for which each is best adapted. Established 1895.

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You are interested in writing, else you would not have read to this point.

THE EDITOR is the best journal of information for literary workers that is published, else it would not be read by more writers than all the similar publications in the world put together.

Susan Keating Glaspell, one of the cardinal prize winners in *The Black Cat* contest, says: "I study THE EDITOR carefully every month; any one who attempts to write short stories would be very short-sighted to try to get along without it." It is interesting to note, too, that the three capital prize winners of this contest, and a very large majority of all others whose stories were awarded prizes, are EDITOR subscribers.

Isn't it worth a dollar a year just to have the very latest, the most intimate information about prize contests? Isn't it worth that much to have a monthly report on all the papers, syndicates and magazines that purchase manuscripts? Isn't it worth that much to read a half dozen or more articles each month on essay and poem and story writing, and on essay and poem and story selling, to say nothing of the clever verse, the answers to any literary questions you may care to ask, and the editorial inspiration?

You don't need to answer these questions; we know the answers.

We are going to invite you to join us, and if you refuse you can go off in a corner and sulk by yourself while your literary friends read THE EDITOR and get into print. We think this invitation will put you on our books, however, for it is simply this: Send us one dollar for a full year's subscription, and with it—not afterwards, mind you! — one manuscript of less than 2,000 words, and we will give the frankest, bluntest, most helpful criticism you ever read, and tell you what magazines will be most apt to buy your offering. This service, at the regular rates of our Literary Bureau, would ordinarily cost you one dollar by itself. If your manuscript exceeds 2,000 words, and is under 5,000, add fifty cents to your remittance. *The offer is to new subscribers only.* If you are already a subscriber, send us *your friend's* subscription and *your* manuscript, or mail our offer to some writer who needs us.

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The Editor

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The Editor

A National Institution.

President Roosevelt, in his message opening Congress in December, pointed out that the business of insurance had attained national proportions, and his words will be remembered by those who read and examine the Annual Statement for the year 1904 of The Prudential Insurance Company.

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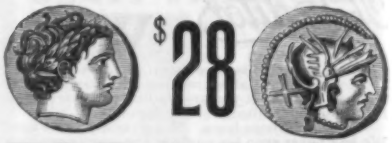

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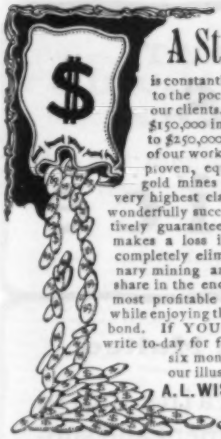

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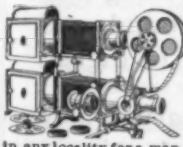

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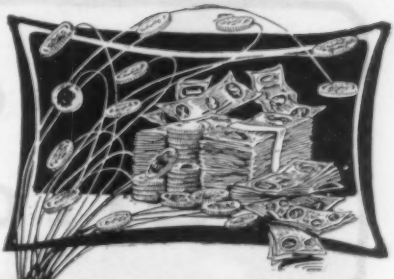

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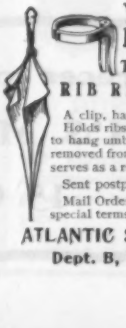

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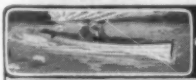

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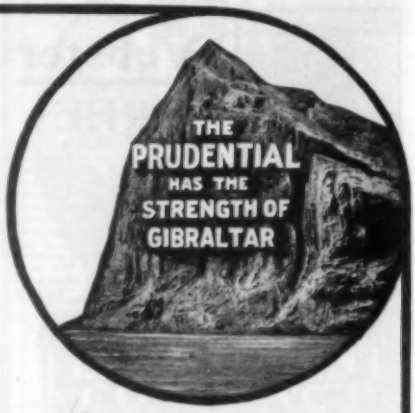

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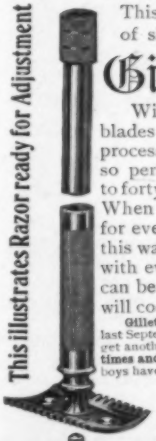

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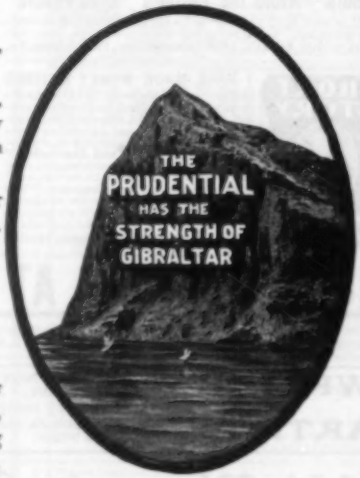

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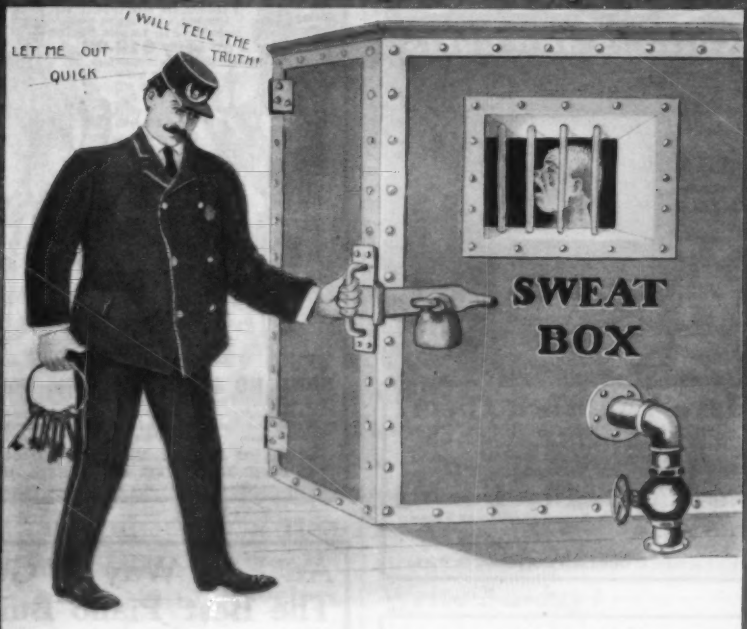

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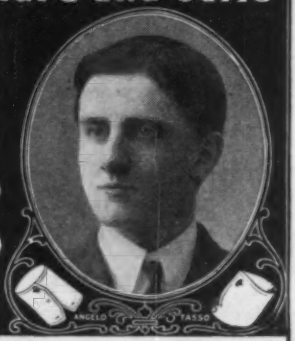

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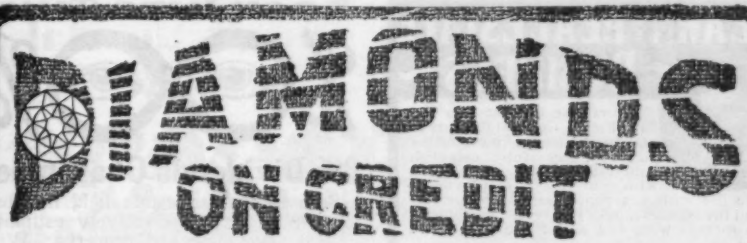

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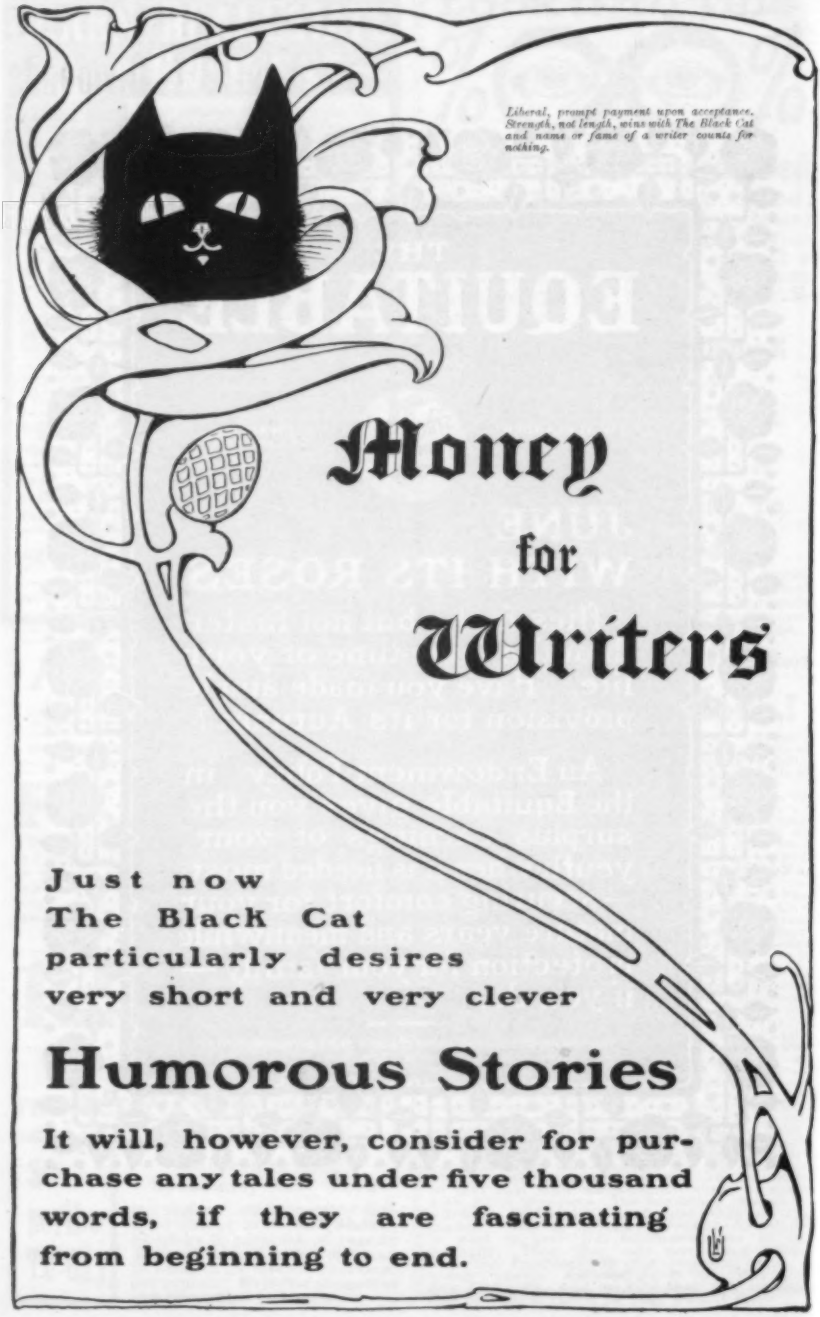

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sold in 10c cartons, my name and face on every package. No, not a chewing candy. You break off a small bit and let it dissolve in the mouth.

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Invest your spare dollars where you know they will be safely and wisely administered, and yield you better returns than you can get in the bank.

We have a few unsold shares of Treasury Stock, reserved until our increasing business demanded more operating capital. We have just erected a new and larger plant—the most modern equipped typewriter factory in the world, and have some further improvements to make. Rather than pay out our profits in interest to the banks, we prefer to sell our remaining portion of Treasury Stock and distribute the profits among hundreds of small investors, who, financially interested, will become walking and talking advertisements for the Chicago Typewriter.

Manufacturing is a safe and sound investment—yielding the surest and steadiest returns. You know the unlimited field for typewriters. Our Company is conservatively managed—no fancy salaries—no official drones—every employe a worker. For our responsibility see Dun's or Bradstreet's.

Not a share of our Treasury Stock has ever been sold at less than par. This is a solid business enterprise. We shall not increase the capitalization and owing to our growing business and high rate of dividends each share of stock will soon be worth double or treble its present par value. Our stock is fully paid and non-assessable.

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I suffered for years with a humiliating growth of hair on my face, and tried many remedies without success; but I ultimately discovered the **True Secret** for the permanent removal of hair, and for more than seven years have been applying my treatment to others, thereby rendering happiness to, and gaining thanks of, thousands of ladies.

I assert and **Will Prove to You,** that my treatment will destroy the follicle and otherwise **Permanently Remove the Hair Forever.** No trace is left on the skin after using, and the treatment can be applied privately by yourself in your own chamber.

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Respectfully,
L. GREENWOOD, Auditor Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., Sioux City, Iowa.

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This illustrates razor ready for adjustment.

Triple Silver Plated

½ Actual Size

The Ordinary Razor Blade

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Note the perfectly true edge of the **Gillette Blade.** The other illustration was not from a bad razor but from **the best obtainable in daily use.**

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Ask your dealer for the **Gillette Safety Razor;** he can procure it for you. Write for our interesting booklet which explains our thirty days free trial offer. Most dealers make this offer; if yours don't, we will.

The University of Chicago
Dept. of Botany.
Painter-Tobey-Jones Co., April 16, 1905.
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Prof. W. J. G. LAND.

This is exact size of Gillette Blade.

The Gillette Sales Company,
1158 Times Building. Times Square, New York.

References: Any one of our 168,141 satisfied users to January 1, 1905, our first year in the market.

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

SUFFOLK, SS. BOSTON, May 1, 1905.

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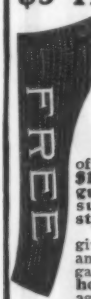

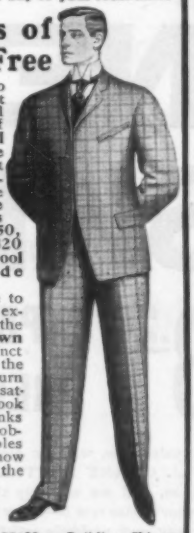

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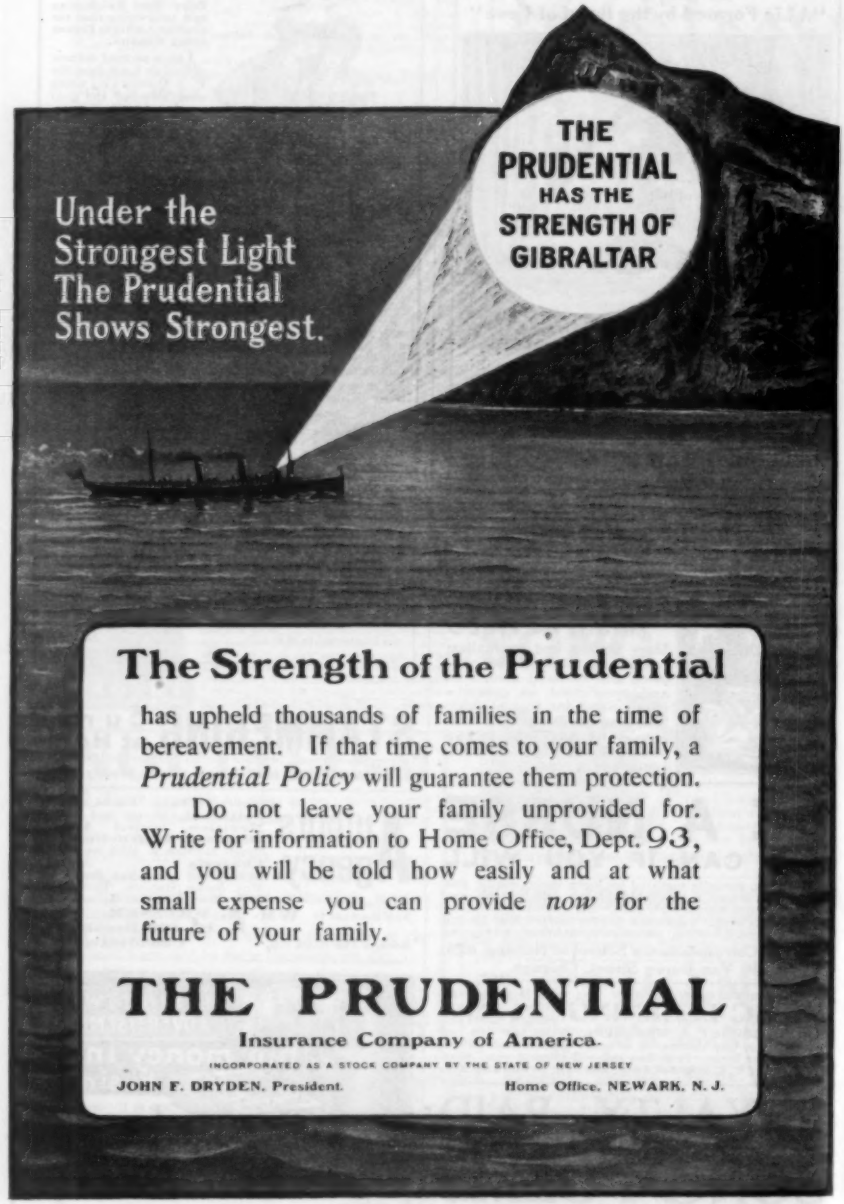

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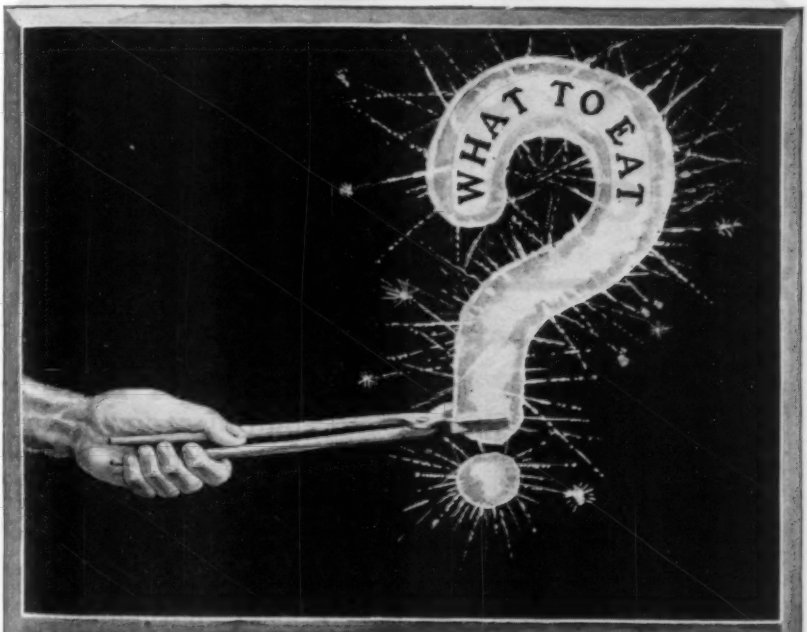

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Under Oath

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, ss.

I, T. E. Dyer, President The Shortstory Publishing Company, publishers of The Black Cat, hereby certify that over Thirteen Thousand Dollars was paid by The Shortstory Publishing Company for the stories comprised in the foregoing offer.

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

L. S. *Leonard G. Roberts, Notary Public.*

Boston, May 1, 1905.

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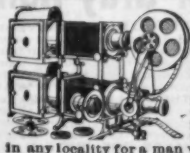

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DUBY'S OZARK HERBS restore gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, beauty and softness. Prevents the hair from falling out, promotes its growth, cures and prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. **IT WILL NOT STAIN THE SCALP,** is not sticky or dirty, contains no sugar of lead, nitrate silver, copperas, or poisons of any kind, but is composed of roots, herbs, barks and flowers. **PACKAGE MAKES ONE PINT.** It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. Full size package sent by mail, postpaid, for 25 cents.

OZARK HERB CO., Block 18, St. Louis, Mo.

MORE THAN 400 SHAVES WITHOUT STROPPING

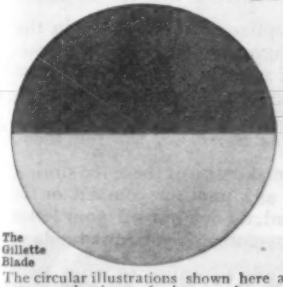
is a low average of the number of shaves that can be secured with a

Gillette Safety Razor

The outfit consists of one triple silver plated holder and twelve double-edged wafer blades, in a morocco velvet lined case. These wonderful blades are tempered so hard by our secret process that they must be ground with Diamond Dust, and so perfectly sharpened that every one will give from ten to fifty delightful, velvety shaves **without stropping.** Thousands of unsolicited letters testify to this. Here is one of them.

Gillette Sales Co., New York. Gentlemen:—I bought one of your razors last September and I would not sell it for many times its value if I could not get another. In fact it is the only razor. **I have used one blade sixty-two times and am still using it.** We have a chain of 26 banks and several of our boys have bought the razor from seeing mine. Respectfully,

L. GREENWOOD, Auditor Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., Sioux City, Iowa.



The Gillette Blade

This illustrates razor ready for adjustment.

Triple Silver Plated ½ Actual Size

The Ordinary Razor Blade

The circular illustrations shown here are exact reproductions of photographs made under the microscope by Prof. W. J. G. Land of the University of Chicago. Same lens and conditions used on both razor blades.

Note the perfectly true edge of the **Gillette Blade.** The other illustration was not from a bad razor but from **the best obtainable in daily use.**

The edges of these two razor blades have not been retouched in any way, but are exactly as they appear under the microscope at 1200 diameters. The ordinary razor was one that was stropped in the most scientific manner while the **Gillette** was selected at random from a dozen blades.

Ask your dealer for the **Gillette Safety Razor;** he can procure it for you. Write for our interesting booklet which explains our thirty days free trial offer. Most dealers make this offer; if yours don't, we will.

The University of Chicago

Dept. of Botany.
Painter-Tobey-Jones Co., April 16, 1905.
Mr. Geo. J. Kendall, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:—I am sending proofs of edges of a high grade ordinary shaving razor and the **Gillette Blade** at a magnification of 1200 diameters (in popular language 1,440,000 times.) Negatives were made from Spencer objective 4mm. focal length and Numerical Aperture 0.85; and Zeiss Ocular 8.

You will note that the numerical aperture is a high one, thus making the test a severe one for both blades. Advise me of receipt of proofs. Trusting they will serve your purpose, I am, yours very truly,

Prof. W. J. G. LAND.

This is exact size of Gillette Blade.

The Gillette Sales Company.

1158 Times Building. Times Square, New York.

References: Any one of our 168,141 satisfied users to January 1, 1905, our first year in the market.

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The prize tales embraced in the offer on page x of this issue practically and profitably answer these two perplexing questions. Write your stories as these are written, and *The Black Cat* will buy them.

To make sure of these 100 stories, either as a treat for yourself or for a friend, do not put off your letter until to-morrow, but **order to-day.**

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The Shortstory Publishing Company

We never read stories unless they are accompanied by full postage for return.

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in Summertime means freedom from **Prickly Heat, Chafing and Sunburn.**

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TOILET POWDER

always brings immediate relief. Be sure that you get the original.

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Linene

Collars and Cuffs

Have You Worn Them?

Not "celluloid"—not "paper collars"—but made of fine cloth, exactly resemble fashionable linen goods and cost of dealers, for box of ten, 25 cents (2½ cents each).

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When soiled discard. **By mail 10 collars or 5 prs. cuffs for 30 cents.** Sample collar or pair cuffs for 6 cents in U. S. stamps. Give size and style.

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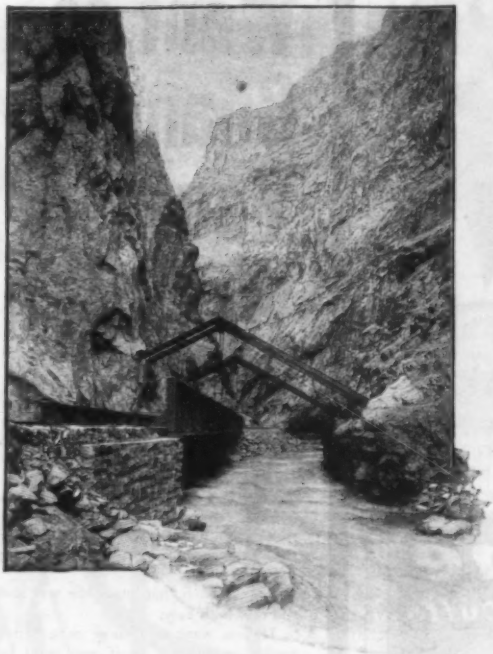

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HAYNER WHISKEY is recommended by doctors and used in hospitals and by half a million other satisfied customers. That's why YOU should try it. Your money back if you are not satisfied.

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"The Hayner Whiskey which has been used at the Embassy has given universal satisfaction. It is an admirable household whiskey."

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4 FULL QUARTS $3.20 EXPRESS PREPAID

OUR OFFER We will send you in a plain sealed case, with no marks to show contents, FOUR FULL QUART BOTTLES OF HAYNER WHISKEY FOR $3.20, and we will pay the express charges. Take it home and sample it, have your doctor test it—every bottle if you wish. Then if you don't find it just as we say and perfectly satisfactory ship it back to us AT OUR EXPENSE and your $3.20 will be promptly refunded. How could any offer be fairer? YOU don't risk a cent.

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Where the Foods Come From.

"Look here, waiter, honest now, don't you dip every one of these flaked breakfast foods out of the same box?" "Well, yes, boss, we duz, all 'cept Grape-Nuts, 'cause that don't look like the others and people know 'zackly what Grape-Nuts looks like. But there's 'bout a dozen different ones named on the bill of fare and they are all thin rolled flakes so it don't make any difference which one a man calls for, we just take out the order from one box."

This talk led to an investigation. Dozens of factories sprung up about three years ago, making various kinds of breakfast foods, seeking to take the business of the original prepared breakfast food—Grape-Nuts. These concerns after a precarious existence, nearly all failed, leaving thousands of boxes of their foods in mills and warehouses. These were in several instances bought up for a song by speculators and sold out to grocers and hotels for little or nothing. The process of working off this old stock has been slow. One will see the names on menus of flaked foods that went out of business a year and a half or two years ago. In a few cases where the abandoned factories have been bought up, there is an effort to resuscitate the defunct, and by copying the style of advertising of Grape-Nuts, seek to influence people to purchase. But the public has been educated to the fact that all these thin flaked foods are simply soaked wheat or oats rolled thin and dried out and packed. They are not prepared like Grape-Nuts, in which the thorough baking and other operations which turn the starch part of the wheat and barley into sugar, occupy many hours and result in a food so digestible that small infants thrive on it, while it also contains the selected elements of Phosphate of Potash and Albumen that unite in the body to produce the soft gray substance in brain and nerve centres. There's a reason for Grape-Nuts, and there have been many imitations, a few of the article itself, but many more of the kind and character of the advertising. Imitators are always counterfeiters and their printed and written statements cannot be expected to be different than their goods.

This article is published by the Postum Co. at Battle Creek. Additional evidence of the truth can be supplied in quantities.

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RUBIFOAM
You owe it to your comfort and health
whether you travel or stay at home.
You know it to be a most refreshing
and delicious dentifrice.
RUBIFOAM
TOOTH POWDER
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PRICE, 25¢ A BOTTLE.
E. W. HOYT & CO.
HOYT'S GERMAN COLOGNE

QUILTED MATTRESS PADS

THREE SCORE and TEN YEARS is a long life, yet about THIRTY YEARS of it is spent in bed. Then why not make your bed as comfortable as it can be made.

Quilted Mattress Pads will not only make it comfortable, but as they are spread over the mattress, they will protect it, and will keep your bed or baby's crib in a perfect Sanitary condition.

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THE "Gabler tone" has been famous among piano users for more than fifty years. It gives the rare and delightful combination of *sweetness with power*; a pure, silvery, singing tone under the light touch — a rich, full resonance in fortissimo passages. But this is not all. The tone of

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This is because of *Gabler construction* and *Gabler workmanship* — the first the most scientific, the latter the most conscientious, ever put into a piano.

Send for particulars of

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An easy way to get the best piano built.

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Digestion plays a big part in the winning or losing, and often the whole question of digestion turns upon coffee. Does coffee bother you?

The heart cannot work perfectly when stimulated with coffee. The difference in the ability to do either physical or mental work is marked when you use **Postum Food Coffee.**

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CURES

ECZEMA and kindred skin diseases. Indorsed by the medical profession and sold by leading druggists. **HYDROZONE,** although harmless, is the most powerful germicide. Not genuine without my signature:

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Preparations with similar names are concoctions of water, containing oil of vitriol, sulphurous acid and inert impurities.

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of HYDROZONE, sufficient to demonstrate its healing properties, will be sent on receipt of attached coupon. (Name your druggist.) Requests without coupon ignored. Only one free bottle to a family.

Write legibly. Coupon good only until August 5, '05.

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Address.....

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with you. The extreme lightness, handsome appearance, and waterproof Japanese seaweed paper lining, which absolutely preserves delicate dresses from dust and moisture, all combine to make it the ideal travelling bag for ladies' use.

Originated and brought to this country by us. Made from specially selected bamboo, so closely woven by hand to a stout bamboo framework that it cannot sag or grow baggy. Made in two sizes: **20 in. long, 11 3-4 wide, 5 deep, weight 24 oz.; 22 1-2 in. long, 14 wide, 5 1-2 deep, weight 30 oz.**

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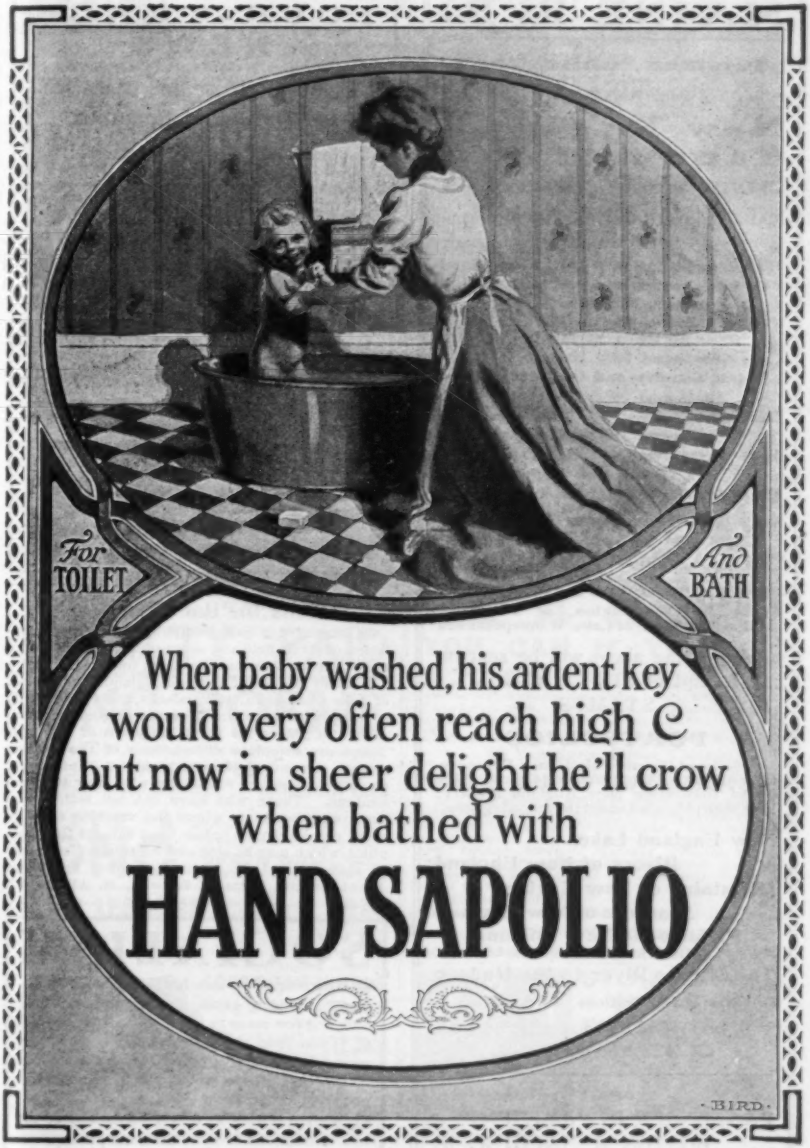
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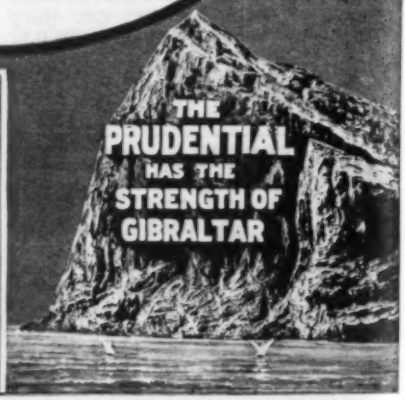

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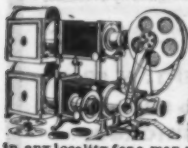

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Besides the first ten prizes, each a stack of silver dollars as high as the head of the prize winner, there are ten awards of $50.00 each for the ten next best stories; twenty awards of $25.00 each for the third grade; one hundred awards of $10.00 each for the fourth grade; two hundred awards of $5.00 each for the fifth grade; and five hundred awards of $1.00 each for the sixth and last grade. **U. S. Senator Allison and Admiral Geo. Dewey will make the final awards on behalf of the judges.** These names are an absolute assurance of the sincere good faith and confidence this "Heart Throb" contest merits from you. If you are not already a regular subscriber, send along the accompanying coupon with your subscription for six months and with one clipping, or a year's subscription and two clippings. Be sure to do so soon as the contest will be closed as soon as 50,000 new subscribers are obtained. Understand the NATIONAL is a dollar-a-year magazine and is worth all you pay for it. There is nothing to lose — you may secure a handsome award. When you *know* Joe Chapple, you will like his NATIONAL MAGAZINE. Show this to your newsdealer and say there is something for him if he will send for particulars. **Joe Chapple, Editor.**

National Magazine, - Boston, Mass.

B.C. 8-05

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What Do We Mean?
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Mackintosh's Toffee The Original Old English Candy

sold in 10c cartons, my name and face on every package.

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Please explain, without further obligation on my part, how I can qualify for a larger salary in the position before which I have marked X

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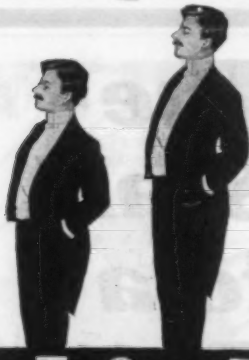

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WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO ADD FROM TWO TO FIVE INCHES TO YOUR HEIGHT?

To be a "good height to dance with"? To be "tall enough to see in a crowd"? To improve the symmetry of your figure and add to your general appearance? It is entirely possible for you to increase your height and accomplish these other advantages in your own home without taking any internal treatment, without drugs, without operation, without pain or injury to yourself, without putting yourself to any inconvenience.

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Buffalo, N. Y.—The Supreme Court has granted a permanent injunction with costs against Paul B. Hudson and others of New York City, restraining them from making or selling a foot powder which the court declares is an imitation and infringement on "Foot-Ease," now so largely advertised and sold over the country. The owner of the trade-mark "Foot-Ease," is Allen S. Olmsted, of Le Roy, N. Y., and the decision in this suit upholds his trade-mark and renders all parties liable who fraudulently attempt to profit by the extensive "Foot-Ease" advertising, in placing on the market the spurious and similar appearing preparation involved in the case. This the court declares was designed in imitation and infringement of the genuine "Foot-Ease." Similar suits will be brought against others who are now infringing on the Foot-Ease trade-mark rights.

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He can make $1,200.00 to $1,800.00 per year. If you write us before we get an agent there **you will get a wonderful offer.** As soon as we get an agent in your town he will get a profit on every dollar we sell in his territory. We then turn all our business over to him. That's why our agents make so much money.

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All boats are sold direct, and every boat is fully guaranteed. Prompt deliveries.

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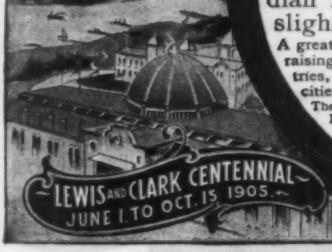

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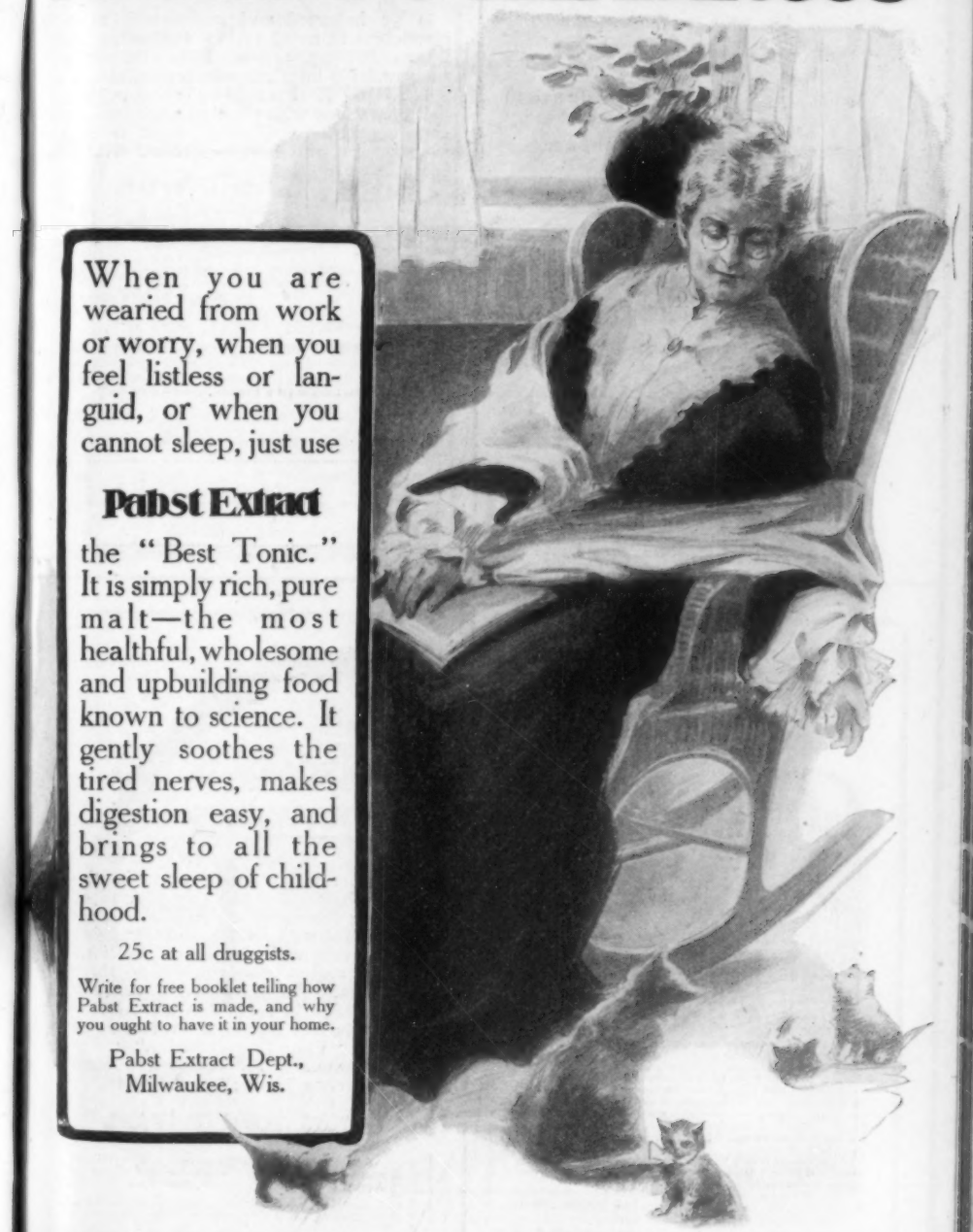

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A cup of well-made **POSTUM,**
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GRAPE-NUTS,
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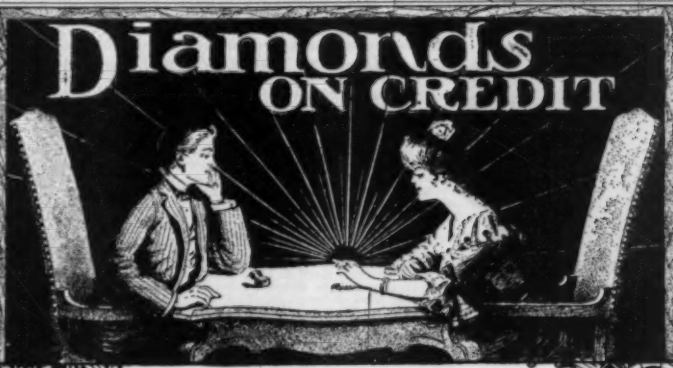

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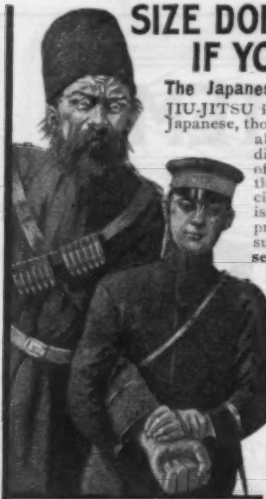

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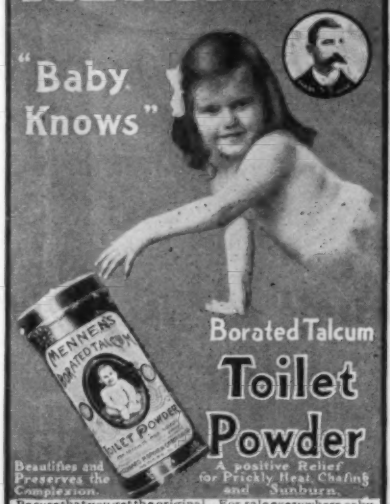

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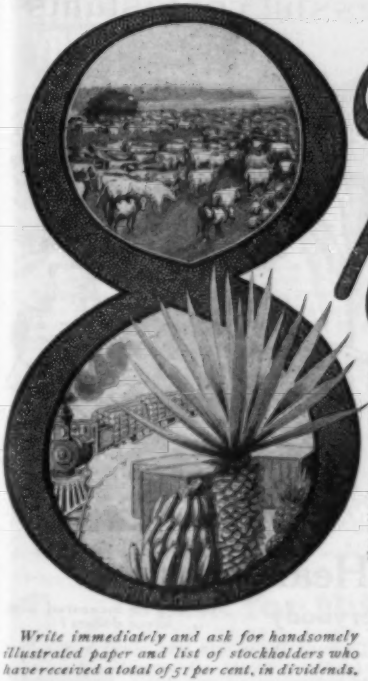

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National Magazine, - Boston, Mass.

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A. L. WISNER & CO., 32 Broadway, New York

24 RAZORS ON TRIAL FOR A PENNY POSTAL

Send us your name, occupation, home and business addresses, and we will send you, CHARGES PAID, on seven days' FREE TRIAL, a STERLING "Safety" with 24, or an "Old Style" with 12 of the smoothest, keenest, sharpest blades ever made—a full year's supply of Razors, adjusted for your particular requirements. No honing. No stropping.

If remittance is made promptly at the end of the trial week, we will keep the blades sharp and keen as long as they last. Mail 12 dull blades at a time, with 10 cents to cover postage, and we will return them in perfect order, free of charge.

Either style works just as rapidly and simply as does a repeating rifle. The blades slip in and out of the frame just as quickly and easily as you would slip a pencil in your pocket. There is no delicate mechanism to adjust, no parts to put together. The STERLING is instantly ready—a touch of the finger and thumb does the work.

When you buy a razor, buy quality. Quality with us means employing the highest type of razor-making skill. It means using the best materials the market affords. It means getting as far as possible away from the machine made blade. It means grinding each blade in oil, hand-honing in oil and hand-stropping. It means testing and re-testing every part of every blade to make sure that the cutting edge is as perfect and lasting as an edge can be made. It means furnishing you as nearly as possible with a razor tempered, set and adjusted to your particular needs. Such a razor is the STERLING, the newest shaving marvel—the only razor with wafer blades that can be re-sharpened at will.

That is why we know the STERLING will shave you cleaner, easier, and quicker than any other razor, whether your skin is tender or tough, your beard wiry or fine, regular or irregular.

Don't take our word for it, but try a set free for a week. Then, if you are satisfied, **you can pay us** *$5 on terms to suit. If dissatisfied, simply return the set promptly at our expense.*

The STERLING is made in two styles—"safety," with twenty-four blades, or "old style," with twelve blades. When you write state which style you prefer and whether to cut close or medium.

SHERMAN & COMPANY
Box 1022, 41 Park Row, New York

We have vacancies for responsible agents.

Dollar Germs

Many a mortal has Dollars up his sleeve and doesn't know it. In other words, the head of many a man or woman holds the foundation, the frame-work, the incident or plot of a Money-Bringing Short Story. The trouble is How to Write It and Where to Sell It.

The prize tales embraced in the offer on page x of this issue practically and profitably answer these two perplexing questions. Write your stories as these are written, and *The Black Cat* will buy them.

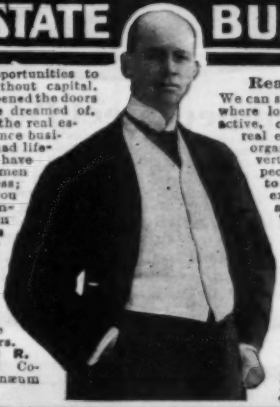
To make sure of these 100 stories, either as a treat for yourself or for a friend, do not put off your letter until to-morrow, but **order to-day.**

No one who aims to write Real Stories or who loves to read Real Stories should miss next month's issue.

The Shortstory Publishing Company

We never read stories unless they are accompanied by full postage for return.

JOIN US AND MAKE $300 TO $500 A MONTH in the REALESTATE BUSINESS.



NO business offers better opportunities to honest, ambitious men without capital. Practical co-operation has opened the doors everywhere to profits never before dreamed of. I originated the plan of teaching the real estate, general brokerage and insurance business thoroughly by mail; I have had life-long successful experience; and have helped hundreds of inexperienced men to immediate and permanent success; I will teach you by mail; appoint you Special Representative of my Company, the largest and strongest in the country; furnish you large lists of salable properties and investments; start you in business for yourself; help you secure customers; afford you the constant advice and co-operation of our powerful organization and assist you to earn a large steady income. This is YOUR opportunity. Write for Free Booklet and full particulars. Do it today. Address **EDWIN R. MARDEN,** President, National Co-Operative Realty Co., 425 Athenæum Building, Chicago.

Real Estate Wanted.

We can sell your property, no matter where located. We have over 500 active, competent, trained, expert real estate men in our immense organization, each constantly advertising and searching for prospective purchasers. If you want to make a quick, cash sale or exchange, send full particulars at once. Address **WILLIAM W. FRY,** Treasurer, National Co-Operative Realty Co., 425 Athenæum Bldg., Chicago.

Property For Sale,

all kinds and descriptions, all prices and terms, in all parts of the American Continent. Special Bargains in farms, homes and business opportunities. No matter what you want, or where you want it, write us at once. Address **JOHN BAUDER,** V-P., Nat'l Co-Operative Realty Co. 425 Athenæum Bldg., Chicago

GOLD TEETH

THE LATEST FAD Fill your own teeth. A Gold plated shell that fits any tooth. Easily adjusted; removed at will. Looks like regular dentists' work. Fools them all. Over two million sold. Everybody wants a gold tooth. Price 10 cents each, 4 for 25 cents, 13 for 50 cents

C.O. FARGO, FRENCHTOWN, N. J.

TOILET POWDER.

There is no toilet article in the selection of which greater care should be used than a toilet powder.

In these days of imitation and substitution there is so much of inferior goods on the market that it is necessary to be continually on one's guard. Highly scented toilet powders are so frequent as to be a continual source of danger. Such inferior products will often do a permanent injury to a delicate skin. It is far wiser never to take chances with an unknown article. Be sure, rather, to insist upon a trade-marked product of recognized merit. With toilet powder, as with most other lines of goods, it is safer to trust an old-established house with years of experience and a reputation for making only the best. Mennen's Toilet Powder is a trade-marked article, which has for years been recognized by physicians as the best preparation made. The absolute purity of its ingredients and the exercise of the greatest care and skill in its manufacture have given the product of the Mennen Co. a quality of uniform excellence. That is why your physician recommends it.

For your protection, Mennen's face (the trade-mark of the Mennen Co.) is on the cover of every box of the genuine.

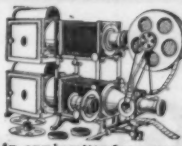
All first-class dealers carry Mennen's Toilet Powder and will supply it if you insist. It is supplied by the Government for both Army and Navy.

The fact that over 11,000,000 boxes were sold during 1904 is evidence of the continuing public approval of Mennen's.

GERHARD MENNEN CO., NEWARK, N. J.

IT PAYS BIG TO AMUSE THE PUBLIC WITH

MOTION PICTURES



HUMOROUS AND OTHER VIEWS. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY as our Instruction Book and "Business Guide" tells all. We furnish Complete Outfits with Big Advertising Posters, etc. Humorous dramas brimful of fun, Travel, History, Religion, Temperance work and songs illustrated. One man can do it. ASTONISHING OPPORTUNITY in any locality for a man with a little money to show in churches, school houses, lodge halls, theatres, etc. Profits $10 to over $100 per night. Others do it, why not you? It's easy; write to us and we'll tell you how. Catalogue free.

AMUSEMENT SUPPLY CO.,
454 Chemical Bank Bldg., CHICAGO, U. S. A.

That's a BUNION

and you can cure it.

The man or woman who tells you a bunion **can't** be cured, never tried the Anti-Bunion Plaster.

They probably used worthless shelf stock—worse than nothing.

We will give you the names of hundreds who had worse bunions than yours and cured them absolutely with our Anti-Bunion Plaster—lots of them the worst cases of bunions on record.

No chiropodist—no iodine—no mechanical devices—no special treatments—no pain, but a natural nature-cure that gives instant relief even when wearing your tightest shoes. Anti-Bunion Plasters remove the cause of bunion growths, and restore the foot joint to perfect form.

You owe it to yourself to prove that your bunion **can be cured**—and you can do it yourself at home without any special treatment.

It's worth 10 cents to prove that, and we will send you a full week's treatment, complete, on receipt of same; you can test the cure for yourself in your own case, no matter how obstinate; thousands have had this proof and been cured absolutely.

FOOT REMEDY COMPANY
1324 So. Lawndale Ave., Chicago

Mullins Stamped Steel Boats Can't Sink

Staunchly built of strong, rigid steel plates with air chambers in each end like a life boat, they are buoyant—strong—safe—speedy—as much better than a wooden boat as a steel greyhound is better than a wooden schooner. They don't leak—crack—dry out—wear out, or become waterlogged and can't sink because of the air chambers.

Motor Boats, Row Boats, Hunting and Fishing Boats

Mullins Steel Motor Boats are elegantly equipped, full-fledged, torpedo stern motor boats—not row boats with motors in them. They are breaking all records.

Motor Boats, 16 ft. 1½ h.p. $135; 18 ft. 3 h.p. $240. Row Boats $20 up

All boats are sold direct, and every boat is fully guaranteed. Prompt deliveries.

Send for 1905 Catalogue

The W. H. Mullins Co., (The Steel Boat Builders) **148 Franklin St., Salem, Ohio**

Member National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers.

16-foot Torpedo Stern Motor Boat, 1½ h. p. Price, $135.

$56.50 Portland AND RETURN

From Chicago, with correspondingly low rates from other points, via the Chicago & North-Western Railway. Choice of routes via Omaha, Cheyenne and Granger, via St. Paul and Minneapolis, through the mountain scenery of Colorado, via Yellowstone Park, through the Lake Mc Donald Country or the Canadian Rockies. Return via California at slight increase in rate.

A great opportunity to visit one of the greatest grain and fruit raising countries, the largest fishing and lumbering industries, and some of the most aggressive, rich and growing cities in the world.

These low rates are in effect daily, May 23 to Sept. 30.

Full particulars in regard to the exposition and descriptive of the Pacific Northwest sent to any address on receipt of two 2-cent stamps.

W. B. KNISKERN, Passenger Traffic Manager, CHICAGO.

THE NORTH-WESTERN LINE

The Choice of a Lifetime

Most people buy a piano to last a lifetime.

Depends on what Piano they buy whether it does or not.

Some pianos are made to look pretty and sell—they suit people who want an ornament.

GABLER PIANOS

are made to make good music—that's the kind we find most people want. Tone sweetness, tone power, and tone durability are predominating characteristics. Gabler pianos are soulfully responsive to the most artistic touch.

Send for information as to

THE GABLER PLAN OF PURCHASE

An Easy Way to Get the Best Piano Built.

ERNEST GABLER & BRO.

459 Whitlock Avenue

(*Agents everywhere*)

COSY CORNER PILLOW COVERS

For $5.00 we will deliver to any part of the U.S. a beautiful leather pillow cover, front and back, with four velvet applique Poinsettias, the wonderful California flower, on it; or send 50 cts. for leather mat showing sample of the applique Poinsettia, or write to THE CALIFORNIA ARTS, 246 E. Colorado St., Pasadena, Cal.

GINSENG $25,000.00 made from half acre. Easily grown in Garden or Farm. Roots and seeds for sale. Send 4c for postage and get booklet AF, telling all about it. MCDOWELL GINSENG GARDEN, JOPLIN, MO.

GINSENG BOOK FREE

Do you realize the large amount of money that can be made in raising Ginseng? Our book, which is free, explains this carefully. On a small investment you can get big returns. While the edition lasts we will send our Ginseng Book absolutely free.

UNION SEED COMPANY, Inc.
Dept. 11, 104 Hanover Street, Boston, Mass.

International Correspondence Schools
Box 834, SCRANTON, PA.

Please explain, without further obligation on my part how I can qualify for a larger salary in the position before which I have marked X

Bookkeeper	Mecha'l Draughtsman
Stenographer	Telephone Engineer
Advertisement Writer	Elec. Lighting Supt.
Show Card Writer	Mech. Engineer
Window Trimmer	Surveyor
Ornamental Designer	Stationary Engineer
Illustrator	Civil Engineer
Civil Service	Build'g Contractor
Chemist	Archit'l Draughtsman
Textile Mill Supt.	Architect
Electrician	Bridge Engineer
Elec. Engineer	Structural Engineer
Foreman Plumber	Mining Engineer

Name_____

Street and No._____

City_____ State_____

Tools of Fortune

Every man is the architect of his own fortune, the only tools required to make the plans being a pencil and a knife. A pencil to indicate the CHOICE OF CAREER on the famous I. C. S. coupon; a knife with which the coupon may be cut out for mailing.

Go where you will, you find in high positions men who have risen from the ranks solely by the help of the I. C. S.; men who were earning but a dollar a day; men with wives and children depending upon them; men with no education, but the ability to read and write.

Go where you will, you find these men to-day as Foremen, Superintendents, Managers, Engineers, Contractors, Owners. Their success reads like romance; and yet it is all readily understood once you know how EASY the I. C. S. makes the way.

Work at what you may, live where you will, choose what occupation you like, the I. C. S can qualify you for it, by mail, in your spare time. It costs nothing to fill in, cut out, and mail the coupon, asking how You can qualify for the position before which you mark X.

ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE

Shake Into Your Shoes

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting, nervous feet, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. **It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age.** Allen's Foot Ease makes tight-fitting or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for ingrowing nails, sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. We have over 30,000 testimonials. **TRY IT TO-DAY.** Sold by all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. **Do not accept any substitute.** Sent by mail for 25c. in stamps.

"In a pinch, use Allen's Foot-Ease."

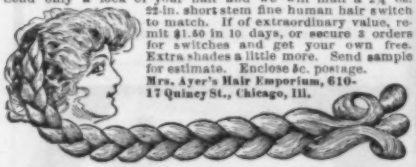
FREE TRIAL PACKAGE sent by mail.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS, the best medicine for Feverish, Sickly Children. Sold by Druggists everywhere. Trial Package FREE. Address,

ALLEN S. OLMSTED, Le Roy, N. Y.

[Mention this paper.]

This BEAUTIFUL HAIR SWITCH **FREE** ON EASY CONDITIONS.



Send only a lock of your hair and we will mail a 2½ oz. 22-in. short stem fine human hair switch to match. If of extraordinary value, remit $1.50 in 10 days, or secure 3 orders for switches and get your own free. Extra shades a little more. Send sample for estimate. Enclose 4c. postage.

Mrs. Ayer's Hair Emporium, 610-17 Quincy St., Chicago, Ill.

Eyesight Restored

Granulated Lids, Cataracts, Pterygiums, and all forms of Eye Troubles cured by **ACTINA. No cutting. No drugging.** ACTINA is sent on trial. Write for our 100-page book. It is interesting and instructive. Free on application.

New York and London Electric Assn.,

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PAYING MINING, OIL, TIMBER, SMELTER, AND INDUSTRIAL STOCKS making possible **LARGE INTEREST and PROFITS,** listed and unlisted, our specialty. Booklets giving full information mailed free on application.

DOUGLAS, LACEY & CO., Bankers & Brokers, 66 Broadway, New York

WOMEN TO SEW Shields at home. Plain Sewing only, it's all piece work. Good pay; no material to buy. Send reply envelope for particulars and prices we pay. **Universal Co., Dept. 100, Phila., Pa.**

Ladies having fancy-work to sell, doylies, centrepieces, Battenberg, drawn-work, plain and fancy sewing, also to do order work. **LADIES' EXCHANGE, Dept. T, 34 Monroe Street, Chicago.**

VENTRILOQUISM

Learned by anyone at home. Small cost. Send 2-cent stamp for particulars and proof.

O. A. SMITH, Box N, 2040 Knoxville Ave., PEORIA, ILL.

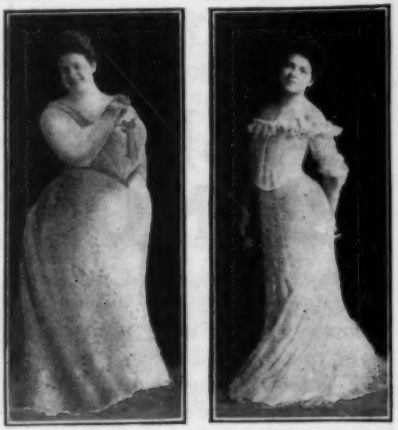
Are You Fat?

Kellogg's Obesity Food Will Reduce Your Weight to Normal, Free You From Suffering and Turn Your Fat Into Muscle.

It Has Done This for Many Others Who Testify to its Efficacy — Trial Package Free.

Don't be fat. It is an abnormal and diseased condition of the body. Nutriment that should have built up bone and muscle for you has made fat instead.

Excess fat is attended by many dangers. The heart, stomach, liver, and kidneys become seriously affected; breathing is made difficult, and often, though seemingly well, the fat person is in grave danger.



The Above Illustration Shows the Remarkable Effects of This Wonderful Obesity Food—What It Has Done for Others it Will Do for You.

Don't starve yourself. You will only become weakened and aggravate your condition without losing flesh.

There is a sure way and a safe way. Hundreds of reputable people testify to what Kellogg's Obesity Food has done for them. It has turned their fat into muscle. They submit their photographs as corroborative evidence. Can you doubt such proof?

Don't be fat. Write to me to-day and I will send you free, a trial package, postpaid, in plain wrapper.

One happy woman, Mrs. Mary Smith, 275 Sheldon St., Grand Rapids, Mich., says:

"My Dear Mr. Kellogg:

"I am sending you two of my photos. They will tell you better than I can how much different I look, and you can imagine how much better I feel.

"My doctor tells me that the effect of the remedy seems to be to strengthen and fortify the system before stripping it of its surplus fat. He was very much interested in the 'experiment,' as he called it. In fact, I do not believe I would have ordered it if he had not urged me to. He said that he had analyzed it and found it to be harmless, but that he didn't believe it could do what you claimed for it.

"I weighed over two hundred pounds, which, for a woman of my height, is very fat. Now I weigh 135, am plump and well formed, and I feel good all day long and sleep so restfully at night.

"I shall always thank you for what you have done for me, and I will be glad to have you refer me to any of your patients."

Send your name and address to-day to F. J. Kellogg, 1705 Kellogg Block, Battle Creek, Mich., and receive a trial package in plain wrapper free by mail.

IF IT'S PURITY YOU WANT

then let us serve you. It stands to reason that we, who run one of the best equipped distilleries in the world, making an average of 9,580 gallons of Pure Whiskey a day, are in a better position to supply your wants than a dealer who has to buy his goods and probably doesn't sell one-half of 9,580 gallons in a whole year. *Just think that over.* HAYNER WHISKEY goes straight to you from our own distillery. That's why it's so good and pure. There is no dealer or middleman to adulterate it. When you buy HAYNER WHISKEY you save the enormous profits of the dealers. That's why it costs less than you pay them for much inferior goods.

HAYNER WHISKEY is recommended by doctors and used in hospitals and by half a million other satisfied customers. That's why YOU should try it. Your money back if you are not satisfied.

Russian Imperial Embassy, Washington, D. C.

"The Hayner Whiskey which has been used at the Embassy has given universal satisfaction. It is an admirable household whiskey."

Count Cassini, Russian Ambassador.

HAYNER WHISKEY

4 FULL QUARTS $3.20 EXPRESS PREPAID

OUR OFFER We will send you in a plain sealed case, with no marks to show contents, FOUR FULL QUART BOTTLES OF HAYNER WHISKEY FOR $3.20, and we will pay the express charges. Take it home and sample it, have your doctor test it—every bottle if you wish. Then if you don't find it just as we say and perfectly satisfactory ship it back to us AT OUR EXPENSE and your $3.20 will be promptly refunded. How could any offer be fairer? YOU don't risk a cent.

Orders for Ariz., Cal., Col., Idaho, Mont., Nev., N. Mex., Ore., Utah, Wash., or Wyo., must be on the basis of **4 Quarts** for **$4.00** by **Express Prepaid** or **20 Quarts** for **$15.20**, by **Freight Prepaid.**

THE HAYNER DISTILLING COMPANY

Dayton, O. St. Louis, Mo. St. Paul, Minn. Atlanta, Ga.

DISTILLERY, TROY, O. ESTABLISHED, 1866.

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You Can Earn

from

$3000 to $5000

A YEAR IN THE REAL ESTATE BUSINESS.

No other business produces the profits that are made every year in the Real Estate Business.

We want to teach you the **best business** on earth and its principles and practices, both thoroughly and technically, in a few weeks' time, without interfering with your present employment.

We want to teach you the Real Estate, General Brokerage, and Insurance Business.

You can make more money in the Real Estate Business without capital in less time than you can in any other business in the world. It is a profession and the business of a gentleman.

Notice for yourself in the newspapers and magazines the tremendous growth of the real estate business—railroads selling land grants; the government opening new homestead territories; timber concessions being sold; factories going up in small towns; new subdivisions, etc.

In order to establish our graduates in business at once we furnish them our "Real Estate Journal" containing descriptions of all kinds of real estate, business opportunities, investments, etc., in all parts of the United States and Canada. We list their properties; help them secure customers; co-operate with and assist them to a quick success. We appoint them members of one of the largest co-operative brokerage companies in America.

Now is the time for you to commence, that you may be prepared to start in active business in the fall, as that is one of the best seasons in the real estate business.

Don't spend the best days of your life working for others when you can make an independent fortune for yourself. We assist in establishing you in business or to profitable employment. Hundreds indorse our institution. Write for **free booklet.** It will interest you.

H. W. CROSS & CO.

Desk 14, Tacoma Bldg., Chicago

Hints for the Vacation.

An attractive 150-page pamphlet, full of the temptation of river, field and mountain, is published by the Central Vermont Railway, under the style, "Summer Homes of Vermont, Islands and Shores of Lake Champlain, Adirondacks, and Canada." It is filled with excellent pictures of Summer-time scenes in places far from the press of city life. There are complete descriptions of the various resorts, convenient time-tables and lists of special excursion rates, of which the wise may take advantage. Those who have not yet settled the great question as to where the vacation shall be spent can hardly do better than consult this pamphlet, which may be obtained by sending six cents in stamps to J. E. Bentley, General Passenger Agent, Central Vermont Railway, St. Albans, Vt.

BOSTON & MAINE R. R.

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DESCRIPTIVE OF

New England Scenery and Summer Resorts

Fully illustrated and containing valuable maps

Fishing and Hunting **All Along Shore**
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Excursion and Summer Hotel Book—Free

Any one of the above Publications sent on receipt of Two Cents in Stamps

A COLORED BIRD'S-EYE VIEW
From Mt. Washington, or a Colored Bird's-Eye View of Lake Winnepesaukee

Either of the above will be sent on receipt of SIX CENTS in STAMPS

PORTFOLIOS

A Series of Beautiful Half-Tone Reproductions of Photographs taken expressly for these works, illustrating New England Scenery: have been published under the following titles:

New England Lakes
Rivers of New England
Mountains of New England
Seashore of New England
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Size of Illustrations, 4 x 6 inches

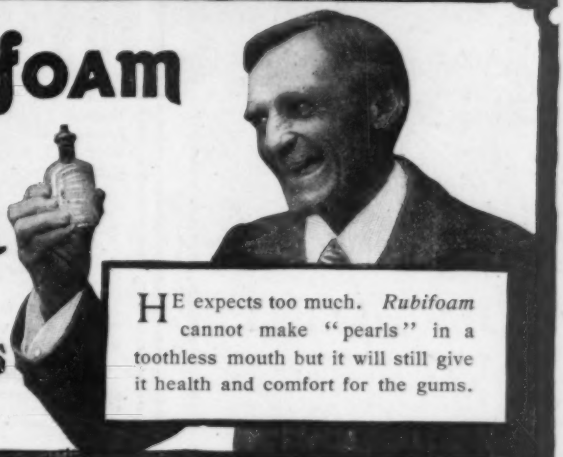
Will be mailed upon receipt of SIX CENTS for each Book

Address

PASSENGER DEPARTMENT
BOSTON & MAINE R. R.
Boston, Mass.

D. J. FLANDERS, *General Passenger and Ticket Agent.*

Rubifoam won't make teeth-it cleans them



HE expects too much. *Rubifoam* cannot make "pearls" in a toothless mouth but it will still give it health and comfort for the gums.

The time to make teeth beautiful is now—while you have them. Don't delay the use of *Rubifoam*. **25 Cents Everywhere.**

Sample for a 2-cent Stamp. E. W. HOYT & CO., Lowell, Mass.

REVERSIBLE

Linene

Collars and Cuffs

Have You Worn Them?

Not "celluloid"—not "paper collars"—but made of fine cloth, exactly resemble fashionable linen goods and cost of dealers, for box of ten, 25 cents (2½ cents each).

No Washing or Ironing

When soiled discard. **By mail 10 collars or 5 prs. cuffs for 30 cents.** Sample collar or pair cuffs for 6 cents in U. S. stamps. Give size and style.

REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. O, Boston.

QUILTED MATTRESS PADS

THREE SCORE and TEN YEARS is a long life, yet about THIRTY YEARS of it is spent in bed. Then why not make your bed as comfortable as it can be made.

Quilted Mattress Pads will not only make it comfortable, but as they are spread over the mattress, they will protect it, and will keep your bed or baby's crib in a perfect Sanitary condition.

Quilted Mattress Pads wash perfectly, and are as good as new after laundering.

They are sold in all sizes by Dry Goods dealers

EXCELSIOR QUILTING CO.
15 Laight Street : : : New York

DISABLED

It's tough luck

when a husky man is disabled by failure of something he depends on.

Many an athlete and business man is "put away" by failure of his heart caused by coffee drinking. If not heart, perhaps stomach or kidneys. When the oar begins to show a little crack, chuck it quick and in time. When symptoms of heart, stomach, kidney or nervous troubles show, quit coffee entirely and use Postum.

"There's a reason" for

POSTUM

Hydrozone

CURES

ECZEMA and kindred skin diseases. Indorsed by the medical profession and sold by leading druggists. **HYDROZONE,** although harmless, is the most powerful germicide. Not genuine without my signature:

Charles Marchand

87 Prince Street, New York.

Chemist and Graduate of the "Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures de Paris, France."

Preparations with similar names are concoctions of water, containing oil of vitriol, sulphurous acid and inert impurities.

A FREE TRIAL BOTTLE

of **HYDROZONE,** sufficient to demonstrate its healing properties, will be sent on receipt of attached coupon. (Name your druggist.) Requests without coupon ignored. Only one free bottle to a family.

Write legibly. Coupon good only until October 5, '05.

Name.....

Address.....

19 City.....State.....

Druggist.....

"The groves were God's first temples."

SEPTEMBER IN THE ADIRONDACKS.

No finer place in September can be found than the Adirondacks. The air is cool and bracing, the scenery beautiful, and they can be reached in a night from Boston, New York or Niagara Falls. All parts of the Adirondacks are reached by the

NEW YORK CENTRAL LINES

A copy of No. 20 of the "Four-Track Series," "The Adirondacks and How to Reach Them," will be sent free on receipt of a 2-cent stamp by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, New York Central R. R., Grand Central Station, New York.

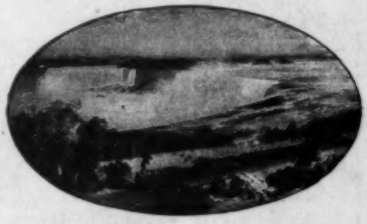
LB Ja '06

MICHIGAN CENTRAL

"The Niagara Falls Route."

BETWEEN

Chicago, Detroit, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, New York, Boston, and the East and Northern Michigan Points



All trains passing Niagara Falls by day run directly by and in full view of the entire Panorama of the Falls, stopping 5 minutes at Falls View.

NEW YORK CENTRAL LINES

C. F. Daly
Pass'r Traffic Mgr.

O. W. Ruggles
Gen'l Pass'r & Tkt. Agt.

Chicago